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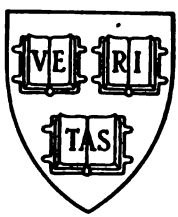

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1st Session
1883-84

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TO THE

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOR THE

FIRST SESSION OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS,

1883-'84.

IN FORTY VOLUMES.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
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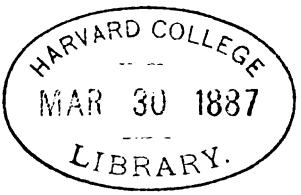

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48TH CONGRESS, 1st Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { MIS. DOC. 65, Part 3.

THE

WAR OF THE REBELLION:

A COMPILATION OF THE

OFFICIAL RECORDS

OF THE

UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES.

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR, BY BVT. LIEUT. COL. ROBERT N. SCOTT, THIRD U. S. ARTILLERY,

AND

PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED JUNE 16, 1880.

SERIES I—VOLUME XI—IN THREE PARTS.

PART III.—CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

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PART III.—VOL. XI.

CORRESPONDENCE, ORDERS, AND RETURNS RELATING TO THE PENINSULAR CAMPAIGN, VIRGINIA, FROM MARCH 17 TO SEPTEMBER 2, 1862.

UNION CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.*

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE POTOMAC,
Washington, August 8, 1861.

Lieut. Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT,
Commanding U. S. Army:

GENERAL: Information from various sources reaching me to-day, through spies, letters, and telegrams, confirm my impressions, derived from previous advices, that the enemy intend attacking our positions on the other side of the river, as well as to cross the Potomac north of us. I have also received a telegram from a reliable agent just from Knoxville, Tenn., that large re-enforcements are still passing through there to Richmond. I am induced to believe that the enemy has at least 100,000 men in front of us.

Were I in Beauregard's place, with that force at my disposal, I would attack the positions on the other side of the Potomac, and at the same time cross the river above this city in force. I feel confident that our present army in this vicinity is entirely insufficient for the emergency, and it is deficient in all the arms of the service—infantry, artillery, and cavalry. I therefore respectfully and most earnestly urge that the garrisons of all places in our rear be reduced at once to the minimum absolutely necessary to hold them, and that all the troops thus made available be forthwith forwarded to this city; that every company of regular artillery within reach be immediately ordered here to be mounted; that every possible means be used to expedite the forwarding of new regiments of volunteers to this capital without one hour's delay. I urge that nothing be left undone to bring up our force for the defense of this city to 100,000 men, before attending to any other point. I advise that at least eight or ten good Ohio and Indiana regiments may be telegraphed for from Western Virginia, their places to be filled at once by the new troops from the same States, who will be at least reliable to fight behind the intrenchments which have been constructed there.

The vital importance of rendering Washington at once perfectly secure and its imminent danger impel me to urge these requests with the utmost earnestness, and that not an hour be lost in carrying them into execution.

A sense of duty which I cannot resist compels me to state that in my opinion military necessity demands that the Departments of North-

*The communications following, dated August 8, 1861–March 3, 1862, were received too late for publication in Vol. V of this series.

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eastern Virginia, Washington, the Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, including Baltimore, and the one including Fort Monroe, should be merged into one department, under the immediate control of the commander of the main army of operations, and which should be known and designated as such.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, August 9, 1861.

To the Hon. the SECRETARY OF WAR:

SIR: I received yesterday from Major-General McClellan a letter of that date, to which I design this as my only reply.

Had Major-General McClellan presented the same views in person, they would have been freely entertained and discussed. All my military views and opinions had been so presented to him, without eliciting much remark, in our few meetings, which I have in vain sought to multiply. He has stood on his guard, and now places himself on record. Let him make the most of his unenvied advantages.

Major-General McClellan has propagated in high quarters the idea expressed in the letter before me, that Washington was not only "insecure," but in "imminent danger."

Relying on our numbers, our forts, and the Potomac River, I am confident in the opposite opinion; and considering the stream of new regiments that is pouring in upon us (before this alarm could have reached their homes), I have not the slightest apprehension for the safety of the Government here.

Having now been long unable to mount a horse, or to walk more than a few paces at a time, and consequently being unable to review troops, much less to direct them in battle—in short, being broken down by many particular hurts, besides the general infirmities of age—I feel that I have become an incumbrance to the Army as well as to myself, and that I ought, giving way to a younger commander, to seek the palliatives of physical pain and exhaustion.

Accordingly, I must beg the President, at the earliest moment, to allow me to be placed on the officers' retired list, and then quietly to lay myself up—probably forever—somewhere in or about New York. But, wherever I may spend my little remainder of life, my frequent and latest prayer will be, "God save the Union."

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect, your obedient servant,

WINFIELD SCOTT.

WASHINGTON, *August* 10, 1861.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:

SIR: The letter addressed by me under date of the 8th instant to Lieutenant-General Scott, commanding the U. S. Army, was designed to be a plain and respectful expression of my views of the measures demanded for the safety of the Government in the imminent peril that besets it at the present hour. Every moment's reflection and every fact transpiring convinced me of the urgent necessity of the measures

* See reference to this letter in Series I, Vol. V, p. 9.

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there indicated, and I felt it my duty to him and to the country to communicate them frankly. It is therefore with great pain that I have learned from you this morning that my views do not meet with the approbation of the Lieutenant-General, and that my letter is unfavorably regarded by him.

The command with which I am intrusted was not sought by me, and has only been accepted from an earnest and humble desire to serve my country in the moment of the most extreme peril. With these views I am willing to do and suffer whatever may be required for that service. Nothing could be further from my wishes than to seek any command or urge any measures not required for the exigency of the occasion, and, above all, I would abstain from any conduct that could give offense to General Scott or embarrass the President or any department of the Government. Influenced by these considerations, I yield to your request and withdraw the letter referred to.

The Government and my superior officer being apprised of what I consider to be necessary and proper for the defense of the national capital, I shall strive faithfully and zealously to employ the means that may be placed in my power for that purpose, dismissing every personal feeling or consideration, and praying only the blessing of Divine Providence on my efforts.

I will only add that as you requested my authority to withdraw the letter, that authority is hereby given, with the most profound assurance for General Scott and yourself.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, August 12, 1861.

The Hon. the SECRETARY OF WAR:

SIR: On the 10th instant I was kindly requested by the President to withdraw my letter to you of the 9th, in reply to one I had received from Major-General McClellan of the day before; the President, at the same time, showing me a letter to him from General McClellan, in which, at the instance of the President, he offered to withdraw the original letter on which I had animadverted.

While the President was yet with me on that occasion a servant handed me a letter, which proved to be an unauthenticated copy, under a blank cover, of the same letter from General McC. to the President. This slight was not without its influence on my mind.

The President's visit, however, was for the patriotic purpose of healing differences, and so much did I honor his motive, that I deemed it due to him to hold his proposition under consideration for some little time.

I deeply regret that, notwithstanding my respect for the opinions and wishes of the President, I cannot withdraw the letter in question, for these reasons:

1. The original offense given to me by Major-General McClellan (see his letter of the 8th instant) seems to have been the result of deliberation between him and some of the members of the Cabinet, by whom all the greater war questions are to be settled, without resort to or consultation with me, the nominal General-in-Chief of the Army. In

* See reference to this letter in Series I, Vol. V, p. 9.

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further proof of this neglect—although it is unofficially known that in the last week (or six days) many regiments have arrived and others have changed their positions; some to a considerable distance—not one of these movements has been reported to me (or anything else) by Major-General McClellan; while it is believed, and I may add known, that he is in frequent communication with portions of the Cabinet and on matters appertaining to me. That freedom of access and consultation have, very naturally, deluded the junior general into a feeling of indifference toward his senior.

2. With such supports on his part, it would be as idle for me as it would be against the dignity of my years, to be filing daily complaints against an ambitious junior, who, independent of the extrinsic advantages alluded to, has, unquestionably, very high qualifications for military command. I trust they may achieve crowning victories in behalf of the Union.

3. I have in my letter to you of the 9th instant already said enough on the—to others—disgusting subject of my many physical infirmities. I will here only add that, borne down as I am by them, I should unavoidably be in the way at headquarters, even if my abilities for war were now greater than when I was young.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,

WINFIELD SCOTT.

WASHINGTON, *December* 10, 1861.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: I inclose the paper you left with me, filled as you requested.* In arriving at the numbers given I have left the minimum number in garrison and observation.

Information received recently leads me to believe that the enemy could meet us in front with equal forces nearly, and I have now my mind actively turned toward another plan of campaign that I do not think at all anticipated by the enemy nor by many of our own people.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

If it were determined to make a forward movement of the Army of the Potomac without awaiting further increase of numbers or better drill and discipline, how long would it require to actually get in motion?

If bridge trains ready by December 15, *probably* 25.

After leaving all that would be necessary, how many troops could join the movement from southwest of the river?

Seventy-one thousand.

How many from northeast of it?

Thirty-three thousand.

Suppose, then, that of those southwest of the river 50,000 move forward and menace the enemy at Centreville. The remainder of the movable force on that side move rapidly to the crossing of the Occoquan

* In the inclosure the Roman type indicates President Lincoln's handwriting and the Italics General McClellan's.

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by the road from Alexandria to Richmond, there to be joined by the whole movable force from northeast of the river, having landed from the Potomac, just below the mouth of the Occoquan, moved by land up the south side of that stream to the crossing point named, then the whole move together by the road thence to Brentsville and beyond to the railroad just south of its crossing of Broad Run, a strong detachment of cavalry having gone rapidly ahead to destroy the railroad bridges south and north of the point.

If the crossing of the Occoquan by those from above be resisted, those landing from the Potomac below to take the resisting force of the enemy in rear, or, if the landing from the Potomac be resisted, those crossing the Occoquan from above to take that resisting force in the rear. Both points will probably not be successfully resisted at the same time.

The force in front of Centreville, if pressed too hardly, should fight back slowly into the intrenchments behind them.

Armed vessels and transportation should remain at the Potomac landing to cover a possible retreat.

[Indorsement.]

Memoranda of the President on campaign of Potomac, without date, but about December 1, 1861; and letter of General McClellan dated December 10, 1861.

WASHINGTON, *March* 3, 1862.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Saint Louis:

MY DEAR HALLECK: Yours of the 24th* arrived while I was up the river. I went there to superintend the passage of the river and decide as to the ulterior movements of the troops. The passage was a very difficult one, but the Engineer troops under Duane did wonders. I found it impossible to supply a large body of troops without first establishing depots on the Virginia side, which we are rapidly doing. So I contented myself for the present with occupying Charlestown, &c., in order to cover the reopening of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. I have also occupied Martinsburg, and will to-morrow throw out a strong force to Bunker Hill. We are thus in position to attack Winchester as soon as our supplies are collected.

I hope to open the Potomac this week, provided the weather permits. It will require a movement of the whole army in order to keep Manassas off my back. I cannot count upon any effective co-operation on the part of the Navy. As soon as I have cleared the Potomac I shall bring here the water transportation now ready (at least it will be in four or five days), and then move by detachments of about 55,000 men for the region of sandy roads and short land transportation. When you have asked for 50,000 men from here, my dear fellow, you have made one of two mistakes—either you have much overrated my force or you have thought that I intended to remain inactive here.

I expect to fight a desperate battle somewhere near Richmond, the most desperate of the war, for I am well assured that the Army of Manassas remains intact, and that it is composed of the best armed and best disciplined that the rebels have, with the prestige of Bull Run in their favor. I have or expect to have one great advantage over you,

* Not found.

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as the result of my long and tedious labors—troops that will be demoralized neither by success nor disaster. I feel that I can count upon this army of mine, and shall gladly venture my life in the scale.

If you had been as long in command you would have had as good or perhaps a better army than this, of which I feel very proud, but that has been your bad luck and my good fortune. You have done all that could have been done with the means at your disposal. The fate of war is yet to decide whether I shall prove as skillful as you have been. I am sure that I have your good wishes and prayers.

I hardly know what to say as to your proposition about new grades. Why change the European order in the military hierarchy, and make a general junior to a lieutenant-general? I see no especial reason for it.

I had determined to bide my time, content with my present rank for the present, and hoping that Congress would give another grade after marked success. I have ever felt that higher grades than that of major-general are necessary in so large an army as that we now have, but I have felt great delicacy in alluding to it. But very few weeks will elapse before the *questio vexata* will be decided. Suppose we let it wait until then and then say what we think. I am willing, however, to defer to your judgment in the matter, and will do all I can to carry out the plan. I don't think I can do anything now. I have but few friends in Congress. The Abolitionists are doing their best to displace me, and I shall be content if I can keep my head above water until I am ready to strike the final blow. You have no idea of the undying hate with which they pursue me, but I take no notice of them, and try to keep Warren Hastings' motto in mind, *Mens æqua in arduis.* I sometimes become quite angry, but generally contrive to keep my temper. Do write me fully your views as to future movements in the West. I think the first thing to be done is to separate Johnston from Memphis by seizing Decatur. Buell must then force Chattanooga, and you can then, with perfect safety, operate on Memphis, &c., and open your communications with the combined expedition, which ought to gain New Orleans within three weeks from this date. Butler will have about 16,000 men. The naval fleet is tremendous in power. Nothing new from Sherman; he and Du Pont are not on good terms; they neutralize each other. Burnside is doing well.

Very sincerely, your friend,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Washington, March 16, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

In order to carry out the proposed object of the Army, it has now become necessary that its commander should have the entire control of affairs around Fort Monroe. I would respectfully suggest that the simplest method of effecting this would be to merge the Department of Virginia with that of the Potomac, the name of which might properly be changed to that of the Department of the Chesapeake. In carrying this into effect I would respectfully suggest that the present commander of the Department of Virginia be assigned to some other command.

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General Mansfield can take temporary charge of Fort Monroe and its dependencies until the army arrives there.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
March 17, 1862—12.35 p. m.

Commodore HIRAM PAULDING,
Commandant Navy-Yard, New York:

Send what gunboats you have at the yard to Hampton Roads at once.

Answer by telegraph which they are and when they can sail.

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
March 17, 1862—2.45 p. m.

Capt. WILLIAM L. HUDSON,
Commandant Navy-Yard, Boston:

Send any gunboats you have at the yard to Hampton Roads at once.

Answer by telegraph which they are and when they will sail.

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Washington, D. C., March 17, 1862. (Sent 2.45 p. m.)

Major-General McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of Potomac, Alexandria Seminary:

In connection with General Barnard I have had a long conference with the Assistant Secretary, Fox, as to naval co-operation. He promises all the power of the Department shall be at our disposal. At my suggestion he has told Commodore Goldsborough to confer with Colonel Woodbury concerning the plans now in view.

I have also asked Mr. Fox to detail an officer to have charge of our transports, so that the landing may be effected with as little confusion as possible.

A person just from Hampton Roads reports nothing new. The Merrimac expected out, and waited for with a confident feeling of ability to suppress her. Mr. Fox agrees with me that [it] is most probable she will make her next sortie in all of this week and will be neutralized.

Will Heintzelman's advance division get off this afternoon?

IRVIN McDOWELL,
Major-General, Commanding First Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Washington, D. C., March 17, 1862—3 p. m. (Sent 3.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of Potomac, Seminary:

In view of all the First Corps going together toward the last of the week and of its requiring all the means of water transport that will

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be coming here, and that the embarkation of the First Corps, with the troops accompanying it, will most effectually organize the water transports and get from him all that was proposed, I beg to ask that Colonel Ingalls be assigned as the chief quartermaster to the First Corps. I want to have him and my chief of staff and the naval officer in conference, to arrange as to the transports and the disembarkation of the troops.

Can an inspector-general and a commissary be also now assigned? It will further matters if they are.

I learn from Mr. Fox that there is a battery where you supposed one would be found. Colonel Cram told Mr. Fox that he thought it probable we would find Back Bay fortified. Nothing they have there will stand against our guns afloat.

IRVIN McDOWELL,
Major-General, Commanding First Corps.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *March* 17, 1862.
(Received 4.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The embarking of Hamilton's division is progressing, but will not be completed until after dark. There was a want of system throughout, probably indispensable from a first attempt. I will give my personal attention to matters to-night, and think that hereafter everything will go on very well. Even to-day there was very little confusion. The troops are in splendid spirits and delighted with the move.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

HEADQUARTERS SEMINARY, VA.,
March 17, 1862. (Received 8.5 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

No further news from horse transports. I hope to perfect arrangements in the morning to facilitate embarkation of men and material. Personal supervision will be absolutely necessary until a more perfect system is introduced. The experience of to-day will enable us to push things hereafter.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *March* 17, 1862. (Sent 9.25 a. m.)

General E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Army Corps, Fairfax Court-House, Va.:

Your dispatch* of 10.50 last evening received.

The general commanding fully approves the dispositions you have made of Richardson's division, and he desires you to exercise your discretion in regard to advancing Blenker's division more to the front. If this is done it should be as near the railroad as practicable, in order

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*See Series I, Vol. V, p. 762.

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that it may be supplied easily. The general thinks that if the enemy make their appearance near our front, and are not in large force, they should be driven back.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

ALEXANDRIA, *March* 17. (Received 5.30 p. m.)

General R. B. MARCY:

Learn from General Banks where his own division now is and when it will reach Centreville. See Barnard about the Russian Captain Wattler as engineer for Banks. Prime might also assist in defensive work for Manassas. How many guns and of what caliber can Fox bring to our assistance? The chief quartermaster should be assigned to army corps with least possible delay. Consult with Kingsbury as to giving an ordnance officer, with mechanics' tools and supply train, to each army corps, he himself merely to take the general direction of them all, without being encumbered himself either by men or material. Inform me what he thinks of this.

Does Banks understand that Shields is to hold with his whole force the valley of the Shenandoah, at least to Strasburg, until Manassas Gap Railway is completed and in operation?

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

WASHINGTON, *March* 17, 1862—6.30 p. m.
(Sent 8.10 p. m.)

General GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Alexandria, Va.:

I gave General Banks his instructions this morning, and he has left to hurry off his division to Centreville. He was directed to leave one brigade of Shields' division in the valley of the Shenandoah, but I will order him to retain the entire division until the Manassas Gap Railroad is completed.

He did not know when his division would get off, but he will hurry it, and says they will be three days *en route.* He has to take a part of his wagons from Sedgwick, at Harper's Ferry, and I should not think he would get his division to Centreville in less time than six days. I will at once give him specific instructions to have Shields guard the valley of the Shenandoah till the Manassas Gap Railroad is finished.

I have sent for General Barnard and Colonel Kingsbury, and will attend to your other instructions as soon as I can see them.

I have telegraphed General Banks to know at what time his division will reach Centreville.

I have just learned that General Van Vliet and Colonel Kingsbury have both gone to Alexandria.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Seminary, March 17, 1862—11.45 p. m.

The First, Second, Third, and Fourth Army Corps will at once be concentrated on their divisions nearest Alexandria, and the commanders of

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these army corps will at once establish their headquarters with their troops. The Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac being in the field, no general officer will leave his command without permission from these headquarters. The perfection of the new organization renders it necessary to conform to this order without delay.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Seminary, March 17, 1862—11.50 p. m.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER:

Until further orders suspend execution of telegraphic order sent herewith in regard to concentration of army corps near Alexandria. Your two divisions now with you will remain under previous orders for the present, but will promptly be relieved. Sedgwick's division will proceed to this vicinity under orders from these headquarters. Communicate fully and frequently.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy to Secretary of War.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding Department, Fort Monroe, Va.:

GENERAL: I am instructed by General McClellan, commanding the Department of the Potomac, to inform you that General Hamilton's division of the Army of the Potomac will sail for Fort Monroe, where it will await further orders from General McClellan.

General Hamilton has been directed, in the event of your requiring the services of his division for repelling an attack, to obey all orders coming from you and to use his utmost efforts to carry out your views.

General McClellan telegraphed to you yesterday informing you that General Hamilton's division would sail to-day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
Fort Monroe, Va., March 17, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN,
Washington, D. C.:

To the instructions of the Secretary of War of the 16th, by telegram, just received, 10 o'clock a. m., I reply that I have already communicated to him and yourself "all the information I have regarding the strength and disposition of the enemy's forces between Yorktown and James River." I repeat, about ten days ago I received what was considered reliable information that Magruder had between Gloucester (opposite to Yorktown) and James River from 15,000 to 18,000 men, and at Norfolk and the surrounding country about 18,000.

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Within the last two days there have been movements the design of which I have not been able to penetrate. Day before yesterday it was reported that they broke up a ten-gun battery on Poquosin and Cheeseman's Creeks.

I have sent out reconnoitering parties to ascertain if possible what the enemy is doing or intends to do.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 83. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Near Alexandria Seminary, Va., March* 17, 1862.

* * * * * * *

III. Col. Dixon S. Miles, Second Infantry, commanding Railway Brigade, will report his command to Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, commanding at Baltimore, but may receive his instructions with regard to that portion of the railway lying within the geographical limits of the District of Columbia from Brig. Gen. James S. Wadsworth, military governor of that District.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

R. B. IRWIN,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 83. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Near Alexandria Seminary, March* 17, 1862.

Supplementary.

Brig. Gen. J. S. Wadsworth having been assigned to duty, by the direction of the President, as military governor of the District of Columbia, will, besides the military command of the city of Washington, assume the charge of the defenses north and south of the Potomac in the vicinity of Washington.

The limits of his command will embrace the District of Columbia, the city of Alexandria, the ground in front of and in the vicinity of the defensive works south of the Potomac from the Occoquan to Difficult Creek, and the post of Fort Washington. He will have charge of the provisional brigades, composed of new troops arriving in Washington, and will exercise supervision over the troops in the city.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 18, 1862—9.40 a. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL, *Fort Monroe:*

Ordered that, in recognition of faithful service by a distinguished and gallant officer, the name of the fort on the ripraps be changed from Fort Calhoun to Fort Wool, by which name it shall hereafter be known and designated.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
March 18, 1862—10.20 a. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding Fort Monroe:

SIR: The prospective operations of the portion of the army under the immediate direction of General McClellan may possibly extend over some part of the district within your command under existing orders.

If such should be the case, it is the President's desire that the efficiency of his action should not be put to hazard by a technical adherence to the strict letter defining your geographical command, and you are therefore requested, should the case occur, to waive the exercise of your authority temporarily in his favor.

The President does not doubt your recognition of the necessity for these instructions, and confidently trusts in your patriotism to give effect to them.

Truly, yours,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS FORT MONROE,
March 18, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I had the honor but a moment since to receive your dispatch of this date.

In reply, I assure both you and the President that no technicalities nor geographical lines will prevent me from assisting Major-General McClellan or any other general officer to the extent of my power and ability to execute to the fullest extent any plan or military operations authorized by either you or the President. To show that my character had not been misjudged, before receiving your dispatch I had given orders to my staff to render every assistance to facilitate the movements and operations of General McClellan.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

ALEXANDRIA, VA.,
March 18, 1862—12.45 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

One division of Heintzelman's army is on board and vessels getting under way. In half an hour all will be off. Transports have arrived slowly. There were not enough last night to complete embarkation of this division. Other vessels now arriving, and McDowell's army will be put in motion as soon as sufficient number of vessels are here to make commencement. General McClellan and his officers have visited all the landings this morning, and are now preparing a general plan for speedy movements of troops. Has Mr. Tucker secured vessels enough to move this large force, with its artillery and cavalry? I will be at office about 2 o'clock, and leave for Baltimore at 2.30. The men are in fine order, and not in the demoralized condition that was reported yesterday.

THOMAS A. SCOTT,
Assistant Secretary of War.

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WASHINGTON, *March* 18, 1862.
(Sent 12.55 p. m.)

General McCLELLAN, *Seminary, Va.:*

Captain Rodgers has been assigned to conduct the flotilla, and he is now consulting with General McDowell. I beg to suggest that I think McDowell's presence here to-day is important. Shall he remain till to-morrow?

Casey's division is encamped around Washington; several of his regiments new. Will he be permitted to remain as he is till further orders?

I have assigned Patrick to King's division; there was but one before.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

ALEXANDRIA, *March* 18, 1862—1.15 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Hamilton's division is fairly under way. I would be glad to have two or three naval officers assigned to me for temporary duty. Any disposable should report to me here at once. The worst is over. Rely upon it that I will carry this thing through handsomely.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

ALEXANDRIA, *March* 18, 1862—1.40 p. m.

General R. B. MARCY:

Ask McDowell if he had not better nominally establish his headquarters on this side and have some of his staff here. Use your own discretion as to his presence in Washington. As things now are I desire no relief or respite from the army corps organization. I still have to work with divisions. It is not exactly right that the whole labor should be thrown upon the shoulders of the General-in-Chief. At such a time as this I need all the assistance that the corps organization can give me, for I am now constantly obliged to tread on the heels of corps commanders by acting directly with divisions. I wish to see Captain Rodgers at once. He can do more good here than in Washington, and should consult with me immediately. If Patrick's order is not published, had you not better assign him to Richardson's old division? I leave that to you. Heintzelman would like to have him. Try to get Van Rensselaer also assigned to this army. Let Sacket remain at Headquarters as Inspector-General of the Army. Cannot General Thomas give me two more inspectors, so that I can have one to each corps besides Sacket? Would be glad to have Buchanan.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *March* 18, 1862—1.50 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Please have McCallum provide engines and cars sufficient to transport supplies only for an army of 130,000 men, including 20,000 horses, over the West Point and Richmond Railway. The road is about 28

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miles long. The only trouble at present is in regard to horse transports. If [they] shall arrive promptly we shall have rapid and glorious results.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MARCH 18, 1862. (Sent 2.50 p. m.)

General HOOKER:

Have you the means of transportation, and can you cross at Hook's [Budd's] Ferry, to turn the batteries at Aquia Creek and force the enemy to burn the bridges across the Rappahannock? If you have, please cross at once, and drive them across. This is dependent on Commander Wyman giving you something to cover the landing.

Let me know what vessels he has.

S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BUDD'S FERRY, *March* 18, 1862.

General HEINTZELMAN:

I have canal-boats enough to cross my infantry force without transportation or supplies, but no tugs. Will see if I can find and communicate with Captain Wyman, and see what he can do for me. Can do what you propose if I can be set across this infernal river.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 18, 1862—6 p.m.
(Sent 6.36 p. m.)

General J. HOOKER, *Budd's Ferry:*

Your dispatch to General Heintzelman has been received.

If you find after communicating with Captain Wyman that you can cross two brigades of your division, with one light battery and some cavalry, you are authorized to move on to Aquia Creek, and if you find you can with safety do so, you will proceed on to the Rappahannock River, when the enemy will probably destroy the bridge.

Proceed with caution and feel your way as you advance.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

MARCH 18, 1862—7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY:

I have not yet heard a syllable from Captain Wyman, nor is there a tug in sight. My cavalry, with the exception of one company, are now stationed along the banks of the Potomac, Chesapeake, and Patuxent Rivers more than 100 miles. Cannot they be ordered in. If I move to-night with two brigades it will be without baggage, except blankets and haversacks.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

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SEMINARY, *March* 18, 1862—8.45 p. m.

Hon. JOHN TUCKER,
Assistant Secretary of War:

I desired to see you in order to be sure that the best possible arrangements were made for the rapid and orderly embarkation of the troops, and that everything has been done to insure the prompt arrival of the schooners. If you have seen Ingalls I presume you have arranged everything. I will telegraph you in the morning if it seems advisable or necessary for you to come down. Anxious as I am to expedite this very important matter, I should be glad to have frequently the benefit of your advice.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *March* 18, 1862.
(Sent 9.50 p. m.)

General J. HOOKER, *Budd's Ferry:*

Your dispatch of 7 p. m. to-day received.

You can order back to your assistance, in making the movement spoken of in my last dispatch, two companies of cavalry.

Should you make the reconnaissance and not be successful our transports are sufficient to give you immediate aid.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, *March* 18, 1862—11.40 p. m.

General J. HOOKER, *Budd's Ferry:*

As it appears that Aquia is deserted by the rebels and the batteries abandoned, I would advise that you postpone your movement until to-morrow, when you will have time to learn more of the movements of the enemy, and I, in the mean time, can consult further with the commanding general. I will advise you as soon as I hear from him in the morning. Do not look upon this as an order, however, if you deem it expedient to cross the river at any time.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, VA., *via boat, March* 19 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I acknowledge your two dispatches received last evening. The second, as unexpected as it is grateful to my feelings, will be acknowledged by mail. All is quiet, and from appearances the enemy are anticipating the expedition now preparing for this place to be intended for an attack on Norfolk, and consequently troops are concentrating at and near that place. Sewell's Point is being re-enforced, and new batteries are being erected between that point and Lambert's Point, at the mouth of Elizabeth River. Stores of every description are arriving.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

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SEMINARY, VA., *March* 19, 1862—11.55 a. m.

General WOOL:

The First Division of Heintzelman's corps left here yesterday about 1 p. m. in steamers for Fort Monroe. It is important that they should be disembarked as rapidly as possible, that steamers may at once return for other troops. General Barnard goes down to-day. Cannot a boat run to telegraph station every hour or so?

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

SEMINARY, *March* 19, 1862—11.20 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I think we have now well systematized the arrangements for embarkation. The troops in splendid spirits. Please have an immediate decision upon the letter which will reach you to-morrow morning in regard to co-operation of the Navy.* That matter is very important. There will be a review of two divisions of First Corps here to-morrow at 2 p. m. All goes well.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

MARCH 19, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Alexandria:

In order to determine the precise co-operation you want with the Navy the President will go immediately to Alexandria, and desires you to meet him at the wharf.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

SEMINARY, *March* 19, 1862—12 m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The transfer of the large force under way and under orders for the Peninsula between James and York Rivers at and above Fort Monroe will render available for active offensive operations the greater part of the troops now under command of Brevet Major-General Wool, who have hitherto been on the defensive. We cannot dispense with this force, and to render it available I have to request that such orders may issue as shall place it at my disposal and shall enable me now to have it formed into a division, under the command of Brigadier-General Mansfield.

In this connection I beg to submit that, being the senior major-general commanding the Army, whenever the forces now under my immediate command come in contact with those of other generals I should have command of the whole.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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* This reference is to McClellan's notes on proposed operations quoted in his report. See Series I, Vol. V, p. 57.

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HEADQUARTERS, *Seminary, March* 19, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL:

I have seen your dispatch* to the Secretary of War, and beg to thank you for the spirit in which it is couched.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

(Copy to the Secretary of War.)

HEADQUARTERS, *March* 19, 1862.

Brigadier-General HOOKER:

General McClellan desires to be informed at once what the last news is from Aquia Creek and Fredericksburg.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS HOOKER'S DIVISION,
Camp Baker, Lower Potomac, Md., March 19, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

Please say to the major-general commanding that I have no advices from Aquia or Fredericksburg later than those forwarded last night. I shall have further information to-night, at least I should have. Tell the general that with two brigades and a battery I feel very confident that I can overcome any opposition the rebels may present on this side of the Rappahannock, if it should not disappear of itself, which I think the most probable. An advance of a small force in that direction will be considered by the enemy as the head of a formidable column, for it is natural for them to look for an invasion from that direction. It is not their intention to make a stand on this side of the Rappahannock.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

MARCH 19, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY:

The bridges are all standing at Aquia Creek and guarded. Two Northern men have arrived at Liverpool Point from Fredericksburg yesterday. They represent large numbers of troops in the vicinity of Fredericksburg. They have been using the batteries at Aquia to-day. We can take possession of the bridges, if you desire, between this and morning, with the aid of the Stepping Stones. My negro spies are not in, but this information is reliable.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

BUDD'S FERRY, *March* 19, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY:

I have now two steamers at my disposal. Shall I embark two bri-

*See Wool to Stanton, March 18, p. 14.

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gades, and what shall I do with them when the bridges are burned? I am totally in the dark as to my future, as the bridges will be destroyed the moment I threaten them, if not before.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General.

MARCH 19, 1862—1 p. m. (Sent 2.25 p. m.)

General HOOKER, *Budd's Ferry:*

The sole object of your movement would [be] to force the enemy to destroy his bridges at Fredericksburg. From accounts received last night from Wyman as to strength I think two brigades very weak for the purpose. When I hear from you in answer to message sent a few minutes ago as to position of rebels I can decide definitely; meantime await further orders.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *March* 19, 1862.
(Sent 10.24 a. m.)

General GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, *Seminary, Va.:*

In accordance with your understanding with General Heintzelman yesterday morning, I directed General Hooker to cross two brigades of his division, a squadron of cavalry, and a light battery, and drive the rebels, which he said were still at their batteries at Aquia, toward Fredericksburg; but upon the receipt of a dispatch from him last night, stating that Aquia depot and the batteries had, according to the report of three deserters, been abandoned and the troops withdrawn, I advised him to postpone his movement until to-day, when he could probably learn more about it. I told him, however, not to look upon this as an order, provided he at any time considered it expedient to go ahead.

He asks, "Shall I move camp permanently?" which I suppose means will he cross and remain permanently on the other side. I will let him know your wishes as soon as I get your answer.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS, *Seminary, March* 19, 1862.

Brigadier-General MARCY:

Direct Hooker not to move until further orders.

By order:

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RICHARDSON'S DIVISION,
Manassas, March 19, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER:

DEAR SIR: A reconnaissance this morning shows that the bayonets spoken of yesterday in my dispatch were from General Banks' column,

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some 8 miles above us, and on the other side of Bull Run; that is, west of Centreville.

I have some information as to the position of General Jackson. He is northwest of Manassas Gap 25 miles, and southwest of Winchester, at a place called New Market, in what is called the "Valley of the Blue Ridge;" has 35,000 men and three batteries. The infantry force at Warrenton Junction is 5,000 men and one regiment of Stuart's cavalry in advance 3 miles. At the Rappahannock Bridge they have some 50,000 men. They are falling back since Friday last toward Fredericksburg. The bridge is not yet broken down but is mined, and they appear to be throwing up a small bridge-head in rear on the heights. We have all this information from different intelligent persons, both white and black.

Yours, truly,

I. B. RICHARDSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Fairfax Court-House, March 19, 1862.

SIR: I have just received this report, and respectfully forward it to the Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac. I think that the informers have overstated the numbers of the enemy.

Very respectfully,

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *March* 19, 1862.
(Received 7.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Matters all right here and will work well. The forces can be landed rapidly, but none have arrived up to 1 o'clock p. m. If the general commanding decides to send all to this point that fact should be communicated in order to provide locations for them. Will you please ascertain and advise me?

THOMAS A. SCOTT,
Assistant Secretary of War.

MARCH 19 [1862]—9.45 p. m.

THOMAS A. SCOTT,
Assistant Secretary, Fort Monroe:

Arrangements should be made for the accommodation of a large force at Fortress Monroe, so as to be ready if General McClellan should make that his point. I have requested him to give you instructions.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of Wdr.

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THE SEMINARY, NEAR ALEXANDRIA, VA.,
March 19, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding the Army of the Potomac, near Alexandria, Va.:

GENERAL: On the 16th instant I received from General Barnard an order to repair immediately to Fort Monroe. At the same time I received at your headquarters in Washington, from yourself, General McDowell, and General Barnard, verbal instructions for my guidance, providing, among other things, that I should make no reconnaissance in person of the landings on York River, lest the enemy thereby might receive intimations of intended movements.

In obedience to your orders, I have now the honor to make a brief report, premising that I am indebted to Colonel Cram and General Mansfield for almost all the information I obtained. In the presence of Colonel Cram I examined some intelligent negroes, who corroborated information which he had previously received. A pretended deserter from our ranks, sent out by General Wool several months ago, has recently returned, a real deserter from the enemy, with precise information of the rebel works between York and James Rivers. This information is laid down on the maps, three in number, herewith inclosed,* and all furnished by Colonel Cram—two copied in his office, one in the office of Captain Stewart, of the Engineers.

The first landing or landings on York River are on Back River. Pontoon-boats at high water can go well up the northwestern branch, perhaps as far as Big Bethel, but if the enemy is disposed to make an obstinate stand behind this stream, such a movement of pontoons would be perilous, if not impossible. This line of defense would be turned with apparent ease by a movement from Newport News along the direct road which heads the stream in question. On this matter, however, more information is desirable.

The next landing, and the best as a mere landing, is at Ship Point, on Poquosin River—a regular wood landing, with 12 feet of water. Here the enemy have had a strong battery, some ten guns, but it is reported have recently evacuated it—for what reason it is hard to conjecture, unless they intend or did intend to evacuate Yorktown. The road from this landing leads through woods to the Hampton and Yorktown roads.

The interior battery at the head of Goose Creek, between that creek and a branch of Back Creek, indicates an apprehension that we may land on the little peninsula, which is nearly closed at that battery, and negroes informed us that pontoon-boats could land on Cheeseman's Creek, a mile or more above Ship Point Battery.

The best landing for our purposes, in the opinion of Commodore Goldsborough and Colonel Cram and others, is the one considered in your office on the 16th instant, namely, the right bank of York River, between Wormley's Creek, about 2 miles from Yorktown, and a little inlet about 3¾ miles from Yorktown. So far as we can learn there are no batteries on this part of the river. Gunboats a half mile from the shore or less can protect the landing. The land, elevated some 20 or 30 feet above the river, is cultivated, and without natural obstacles some half mile or more back from the river. The little peninsula between Back Creek, Back Bay, York River, and the little inlet just mentioned will apparently furnish an impregnable position for the landed forces should they be forced back by superior numbers. Pontoon-boats, ac-

*Not found.

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cording to information furnished by the negroes, will ground along the shore on hard sand. The bluff banks are not too steep for infantry. At the little inlet 3¾ miles from Yorktown the landing will apparently be protected from any batteries between Yorktown and Wormley's Creek, and more particularly from two batteries of two Dahlgren guns, each said to be masked, 2 miles from Yorktown, and therefore near the mouth of that creek. Finally, the road from this landing turns all the enemy's defenses on the Hampton and Yorktown roads up to a point 4 miles from Yorktown.

The roads from Hampton and from Newport News to Yorktown pass through alternations of woods and open fields, with woods sometimes on one side and open fields on the other, and with occasional defensive lines of considerable natural strength. Should the enemy occupy these roads and positions in force, a rapid advance by the direct roads would be difficult, and attended with much loss of life; but by extending our flanks considerably we shall naturally find some places of easy approach, by which all the natural defenses will be turned. Considerable road and bridge making would be essential to safe and sure operations. The enemy now holds Big Bethel, where the first serious resistance on the road from Hampton will be encountered. Northwest Branch, Deep Creek, and the narrow divide between the two furnish a strong, continuous defensive line against rapid approaches—no serious obstacle, I think, against slow and careful approaches.

The works of the enemy at Wall's Creek seem to be built mainly or altogether to prevent our landing at that point. A similar remark may be made of the works between Deep Creek and Warwick River.

Warwick River, near its mouth, has, it is reported, been obstructed by the rebels. I have nothing to add to the information furnished by the map as to the works of the enemy between Hampton or Newport News and Yorktown. It will be noticed that one or two small batteries are found wherever a road from York River side joins the main road from Hampton, while no notice is taken of the roads which come in from the James River side. Still these roads seem to turn the positions of the enemy equally well. According to the map there are no prepared works beyond Deep Creek to prevent a march from Newport News by way of the Court-House and the head of Warwick River to a position entirely above Yorktown. The last natural line of the enemy—a branch of Warwick River, a branch of Wormley's Creek, and the divide between the two, where the last batteries are seen on the Hampton and Yorktown road, about 2½ miles from the latter place—unfortunately is not turned by the landing below Wormley's Creek, and this fact suggests the want of other means of turning the works of the enemy entirely above Yorktown, and if possible above Williamsburg.

At Williamsburg, 12 miles above Yorktown, the enemy have fortified to some extent another natural line. On the right of the road, 1 mile below Williamsburg, there is Fort Magruder, a square redoubt with two mounted guns; on the left of the road two square redoubts without mounted guns.

Commodore Goldsborough expressed his desire to co-operate in every way and his decided belief that the enterprise would be successful. He had secured twelve pilots when I left, and can doubtless find as many more as may be necessary. He thinks he can protect a landing, and said something about running a gunboat or two by Yorktown in the night, but did not seem entirely willing to undertake that maneuver. There will be no difficulty in obtaining at Fort Monroe all the

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guides necessary for an onward march from Hampton and Newport News.

Miscellaneous information obtained in part through General Mansfield from the deserter or spy already mentioned: The steamboat Peck runs from Grove's Wharf, on James River, opposite Williamsburg, to Richmond, leaving the former place every day at 5 p. m. There is a battery of ten guns at Grove's Wharf. On James River, 21 miles above Williamsburg, there is a battery of thirty-two large guns. At Warwick there is a battery of seven guns half a mile above the Court-House. This battery is not represented on the map, and I cannot make out its exact situation. The steamer Logan leaves Yorktown daily at 5 p. m. for West Point. There is a telegraph from Big Bethel to Richmond. Fourteen columbiads are mounted at Gloucester. Twenty-four guns in all, according to Mansfield, twenty-seven according to Cram, are mounted in the fortifications immediately around Yorktown. To these would probably be added the guns withdrawn from outside batteries.

Respectfully,

D. P. WOODBURY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *March* 20, 1862—9.20 a. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

Your dispatch, dated Seminary, 12 o'clock last night, asking authority to organize a division from the troops at Fort Monroe, for the operations under your immediate direction, to be commanded by Brigadier-General Mansfield, has been received, and your request is approved, of which General Wool will be advised. General Wool has already, in a most becoming spirit, manifested a disposition to waive all technicalities in your favor, and you will encounter no obstacle from him. I am rejoiced to learn that everything goes on to your satisfaction, and no effort of the Department will be spared to insure your success.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

SEMINARY, VA., *March* 20, 1862—12.55 p. m.
(Received March 20, 1862—1.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Have you received my letter* in regard to co-operation of Navy? If so, please see the President at once and telegraph the reply. On your reply much depends, for, as you will see from my letter, I have now to choose at once between the two methods of accomplishing our object.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 20, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of Potomac, Headquarters, Seminary:

Nothing decisive at the President's. The plan seemed to find favor with all who spoke. The only question seemed to be as to the ability of the Navy to do their part. I am to go again in the morning, when

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*See Series I, Vol. V, p. 57.

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Barnard returns. Whether the Navy can, or not, do anything, I think it evident they cannot before you can ship another division of Heintzelman's to Old Point. I spoke to the President, and he thought this would be best, so as not to keep the means of transportation idle. I would therefore send Heintzelman's second division at once or as soon as you can. His first arrived safe last night and was landing. The Secretary says you should have no difficulty with Wool.

IRVIN McDOWELL,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., March 20, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding, Fort Monroe:

Your telegraphic dispatch of the 19th [18th] instant, declaring your purpose to waive all technical questions in favor of General McClellan, has been received, and the Department anticipates no obstacle to his operations from any conflict of authority at Fort Monroe. The general states that he will wish to organize the force, or a part of it, under your command, into a division, to be commanded by General Mansfield, and his expressed desire has been approved by the Department.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS, *Seminary, March* 20, 1862.

Col. THOMAS A. SCOTT,
Assistant Secretary of War, Fort Monroe:

In answer to a dispatch received by me last evening from the Secretary of War I have to inform you that Hamilton's division, which left here Tuesday, will land at Fort Monroe. The arrangements required for its accommodation at that place will be made by the Quartermaster's Department.

It is as yet uncertain what other divisions, if any, will land at Fort Monroe. Should any other troops disembark there, they will be provided for by the staff department of the army.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

NEW YORK CITY, *March* 20, 1862.
(Received 2.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Please send me the necessary authority for action by this day's mail. Be in time. The ship leaves to-morrow. Please answer.

C. VANDERBILT.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, March 20, 1862.

C. VANDERBILT,
5 *Bowling Green, New York:*

Your telegram received. The President and this Department are highly gratified at your promptitude, and that you are so far forward.

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I should be glad to have a detailed statement of your preparations and proceedings by mail. The necessary authority for action will be forwarded by this day's mail, and instructions will also be given to General Wool and the officers at Fort Monroe.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, March 20, 1862.

C. VANDERBILT, Esq.,
New York City, N. Y.:

SIR: The President desires to turn to the utmost account your patriotic and generous gift to the Government of the great steamship Vanderbilt, and to use and employ that ship for protection and defense against the rebel iron-clad ship Merrimac, and also to secure at the present time the advantage of your great energy and nautical experience. And to that end, having accepted your gift of the Vanderbilt, he authorizes and directs me to receive her into the service of the War Department, and to use and employ the said steamship and her officers and crew, under your supervision, direction, and command, to aid the protection and defense of the transports now in the service of this Department on Chesapeake Bay, Hampton Roads, and adjacent waters, and wherever the said transports may be bound.

Confiding in your patriotic motives and purposes, as well as in your skill, judgment, and energy, full discretion and authority are conferred upon you to arm, equip, navigate, use, manage, and employ the said steamship Vanderbilt, with such commander and crew and under such instructions as you may deem fit for the purposes hereinbefore expressed.

Instructions will be given to the Quartermaster-General to furnish you with supplies, and to treat and recognize the Vanderbilt, her officers and crew, as in the Government service and under the special orders of this Department. Whatever instructions or authority you may require for the proper conduct and efficiency of said steamship in the Government service will be given on application to this Department.

To the officers whom you may place in command of said ship you will give such instructions as you may deem proper, communicating a copy thereof to this Department for its information.

By order of the President:

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS, *Seminary, March* 20, 1862.

Maj. J. P. GARESCHÉ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, War Department:

The grand aggregate of the Army of the Potomac, including General Dix's, General Banks', and General Wadsworth's commands, as nearly as can now be ascertained, is 240,234.

Of this number 196,797 are infantry; 24,110 are cavalry, and 19,327 are artillery.

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New organizations, imperfectly formed, in Pennsylvania, &c., from which we have no returns, are excluded.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *Seminary*, *March* 20, 1862.

Maj. J. P. GARESCHÉ,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The statement of the force in the Army of the Potomac, sent forward this morning, included the garrisons of Washington and Alexandria and the troops which have been designated to remain under the command of General Wadsworth.

Under the heading of artillery is included the garrisons of the field works about Washington. I mention this to guard against misapprehension. If you wish simply for a statement of the force that is available for the campaign about to be undertaken by General McClellan it can be furnished without much delay.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *March* 21, 1862.

General JOHN SEDGWICK,
Commanding, Harper's Ferry, Va.:

The general commanding directs that you hold yourself in readiness to move by railroad to this place.

Cars will be obtained from Mr. Garrett, president Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, at Baltimore, to whom you will please make known the amount of transportation required.

The general also wishes the bridge train now at Harper's Ferry sent here. The engineer corporal will receive instructions from Captain Duane.

I will telegraph to Garrett to send up the necessary transportation for the bridge train, and also to receive instructions from you for the transportation you require for your command. Please furnish such assistance as may be necessary to take up the bridge train and load it upon the cars.

Please acknowledge receipt of this.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *March* 21, 1862.
(Received March 22, 1862—10.20 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have just received your telegram of yesterday, 20th instant.

I do not comprehend so much of your dispatch as relates to General McClellan organizing "the force, or a part of [it], under your command, into a division, to be commanded by General Mansfield; and his expressed desire has been approved by the Department." It will afford

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me great pleasure to aid and assist General McClellan in organizing any force which you or the President may think proper to place under his command and any force you may deem proper to place under the command of Brigadier-General Mansfield to constitute a part of General McClellan's forces. Please to answer if this is the proper construction of your dispatch. I repeat, nothing will be wanting on my part to organize in the most efficient manner the forces designed for the command of General McClellan.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 21, 1862—2 p. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Barnard not yet returned. I will not wait any longer. When he comes they will send for me. I leave at once for headquarters.

IRVIN McDOWELL.

STEAMER DANIEL WEBSTER,
Alexandria, March 21, 1862.

Captain DAHLGREN, *U. S. Navy:*

General McClellan desires me to inform you that the expedition, consisting of about thirty vessels, will sail to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

F. J. PORTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

(Copy furnished Secretary of War.)

FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 21, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

General Hamilton's division disembarked 4 to 7 p. m. yesterday. Steamers returned to Alexandria last night; balance are unloading to-day. Weather stormy, which causes delay. Vessels should be started from Alexandria as fast as they are loaded. If delayed there until a division or corps is loaded, much delay will occur here in the debarkation.

It is believed here that the Merrimac will not be in condition for service for eight or ten days, but this is uncertain. In the mean time much can be done in this region if the army is pushed forward.

General McClellan will have the hearty aid of General Wool in co-operating his plans. I hope all will be well.

THOMAS A. SCOTT,
Assistant Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 22, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

We have been waiting for Barnard to conclude arrangements with Navy. He was expected yesterday morning.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 22, 1862.

General WOOL, *Fort Monroe:*

Your dispatch of the 21st is received.

The expedition under General McClellan is considered of paramount importance for the time being, and the telegram to you of the 20th was designed to advise you of that fact and to desire you to waive the exercise of your authority in his favor; or, if need be, to exercise your authority upon his suggestions in furtherance of his expedition. This I understand you consent to do, and my telegram was to advise you of a specific arrangement which General McClellan proposes to make.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, March 22, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding at Fort Monroe:

GENERAL: The steamship Vanderbilt sailed from New York last night for Fort Monroe. She has been given to the War Department and accepted by the President, and is designed to serve and be employed under the instructions of this Department for the convoy and protection of Government transports at Fort Monroe and especially for the destruction of the Merrimac. She is armed, manned, and equipped for the service. You will notify me immediately of her arrival at Fort Monroe, so that I may give any further orders that may be required, and you will receive and provide for her as a vessel belonging to this Department and engaged in its special service.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

SEMINARY, *March* 22, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

General Porter, with his entire division with the exception of one regiment, which is now ready to move, left Alexandria between 10 and 11 o'clock this morning.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

BUDD'S FERRY, MD., *March* 22, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

Have seen General Heintzelman. One regiment, with the cavalry, is sufficient to occupy this post. The rebels have one gun at Aquia Creek and a small party to work it. Patrols and pickets constantly make their appearance, but it is not known from what point they come. The rebels have about 3,000 men on the north side of the Rappahannock, and encamped a little to the west of the road leading from Dumfries to Fredericksburg. If they have a larger force I do not know it.

General Sickles reports to me that the depot of Aquia is not destroyed. Captain Wyman informed me several days since that it was. Contra-

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bands have stated the same thing. I forwarded to the provost-marshal to-day a prisoner of the name of Grimes, who lives at the mouth of Potomac Creek; is a man of wealth and standing. He says that the rebels have destroyed a part of the railroad bridge at Fredericksburg. It is confirmed by no one else.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS, *Seminary, March* 22 1862.
(Received 10.30 p. m.)

General R. B. MARCY:

General Dix was some time since ordered to form a brigade for active service under General Lockwood, and to order General Lockwood with nearly all his troops to Baltimore. General Lockwood will arrive with the Second Delaware Regiment, the infantry of Purnell's Legion, Third Maryland Volunteers, and First Maryland Cavalry. General Dix seems to indicate this as General Lockwood's future command, and says if they be taken from him he needs two more regiments.

The following is General Dix's command: Second Artillery, U. S. Army, garrison of Fort McHenry, aggregate 78; Third New York Volunteers, garrison of Fort McHenry, aggregate 826; Fifth New York Volunteers, Colonel Warren, garrison of Forts Federal Hill and Marshall, aggregate 981; First Maryland Cavalry, Baltimore, aggregate 644; Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Baltimore, aggregate 993; Eighty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, guarding Northern Central Railroad, aggregate 1,008; Fourth New York Volunteers, guarding Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad, aggregate 803; One hundred and eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, guarding Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Annapolis, aggregate 845; L Battery, New York Artillery, Baltimore, aggregate 136; Patapsco Guards, guarding Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, aggregate 103. Artillery, 214; cavalry, 644; infantry, 5,559.

Brigadier-General Lockwood, Peninsula Brigade: Second Delaware Volunteers, Drummondtown, Va., aggregate 735; First Eastern Shore Maryland Home Guards, Salisbury, Md., aggregate 803; Second Eastern Shore Maryland Home Guards, Drummondtown, Va., aggregate 592; Purnell Legion, Eastville, Va., aggregate 1,115.

Unorganized regiments in Baltimore, but mostly armed: Third Maryland Volunteers, Baltimore, aggregate 673; Fourth Maryland Volunteers, Baltimore, aggregate 357; Baltimore Light Infantry, Baltimore, aggregate 383.

The effective force, besides the cavalry not employed either garrisoning forts or in guarding railroads, is Battery L, New York Artillery, and the One hundred and eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, which is divided up to protect the public property in the barracks of troops recently withdrawn from the division. Garrison of Fort Delaware, regulars, 46, &c.

BALTIMORE, *March* 21.

General WILLIAMS:

Fort Delaware was accidentally omitted in the report sent to you, though no reliable report could have been made, in consequence of recent changes not reported until this morning. I send you the following report, just received: Detachment of regulars, aggregate 47; independent battery artillery, Pennsylvania Volunteers, aggregate 95; independent battery, Captain Jones, Pennsylvania Volunteers, aggregate 78; Bat-

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tery A, First Battalion Marine and Fortification Artillery, aggregate 85; Battery B, First Battalion Marine and Fortification Artillery, aggregate 94; total for duty 340; aggregate 399.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *March* 23, 1862—9.10 p. m.

Col. A. V. COLBURN, *A. A. G.*,
Hdqrs. Army of Potomac, Episcopal Seminary, Alexandria:

I have endeavored to get some plan arranged and means procured for the most important part of our enterprise, viz, a landing.

The only means we have now are the bateaux. These I had intended to go with Captain Duane's command and with McDowell's corps.

I learned to-day that the Annapolis bateaux had been ordered to Fort Monroe. The trestles, or the India rubber, or the canvas boats will answer for crossing these creeks and all the bateaux should be with the landing corps (McDowell's).

To-day I had a consultation with McDowell, and it was decided to place the whole matter of furnishing means of landing under General Woodbury, and to put temporarily Captain Duane under his command; to have the necessary scows, canal-boats, &c., prepared immediately, and the bateaux are to form an essential part of the means. The orders have been issued by General McDowell for that purpose. Unless the arangements are definitely made now it is out of the question to think of landing any considerable force as a tactical or strategical operation.

One company of Duane's command might go with the land forces to put down trestle bridges—perhaps two companies—but he himself and all the bateaux should go with McDowell, and Colonel Woodbury will furnish the additional men necessary and see to the getting up of arrangements.

Answer as soon as possible.

J. G. BARNARD,
[*Brigadier-General.*]

HEADQUARTERS, *Seminary, March* 23, 1862.

Captain DAHLGREN, *Navy-Yard:*

General Smith's division is embarking to-day, and will leave Alexandria by 5 o'clock this afternoon. Please inform Captain Wyman, that he may furnish the necessary convoy.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

SEMINARY, *March* 24, 1862. (Received 10.5 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Transportation for infantry exhausted. Capacity of that kind seems

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overrated. The rest of Averell's cavalry are embarking, and several batteries of the reserve will embark this morning.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March* 24, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

What force is there at Manassas Junction and who is in command there?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
March 24, 1862—10.10 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

General Sumner commands the troops in vicinity of Manassas. He has a brigade of infantry and a regiment of cavalry at Manassas itself, two brigades at Union Mills, a division at Fairfax. Until the railway bridge at Union Mills is finished it is next to impossible to supply any large force beyond Bull Run. Banks' division is on the march to Centreville from Winchester. One brigade was, however, ordered back last night to support Shields. Union Mills Bridge will be completed to-morrow, and I shall then strengthen Manassas and occupy Warrenton Junction. General Sumner has pushed his reconnaissances to Gainesville, which was found abandoned. It is his opinion that the scouts of the enemy are very weak. Until we can put forage across Bull Run by the railroad it will not be in our power to keep a large cavalry force in front of Manassas.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
March 24, 1862—10.30 a. m.

General E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Corps, Fairfax Court-House:

What is condition of fords over Bull Run? Enemy reappeared yesterday near Winchester, and, although reported defeated, seem still to be there. Hard to tell in what force, but I do not think large. Can you manage supplies so as to push all your troops across Bull Run and drive the enemy out of Warrenton Junction? Can you maintain an additional cavalry force in that direction before Union Mills Bridge is completed? What is condition of roads beyond Bull Run?

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Centreville, March 24, 1862.

General McCLELLAN:

Your telegram of March 24 has been received. In compliance with the words, "Can you manage supplies so as to push all your troops

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across Bull Run and drive the enemy from Warrenton Junction?" believing I could do so, I took it for granted you wished it done, and moved immediately. A guard will be left at this place and at Manassas Junction, and I will with the remainder of my command move, in compliance with your last order, on Warrenton Junction to-morrow morning. I will force the rebuilding of the railroad bridge at Bull Run as far as possible. The fords of Bull Run are practicable. I will cross by Lewis' Ford, near which is a bridge for the infantry. Instructions will be left for General Banks, as directed. As the railroad is now completed to Union Mills, I think, with the number of teams I have, I can supply forage for an additional force of cavalry.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
March 24, 1862—4.30 p. m.

General E. V. SUMNER:

My telegram of this morning was intended simply to obtain from you the information necessary to enable me to judge when it would be best to move. It was not intended as an order to advance. If you are in motion when this is received keep on to Warrenton Junction. You will not advance the mass of your command beyond that point, but throw your cavalry well in advance, supported by artillery and infantry. Endeavor to force the enemy to burn the railroad bridge over the Rappahannock. Leave a sufficient guard at Manassas and Centreville. Leave instructions for Banks' command to await further orders at Centreville and Manassas.

You will be relieved by General Banks at Warrenton Junction, and will hold yourself in readiness to come back to Alexandria for embarkation. Render all possible assistance in rebuilding the railroad and telegraph to Warrenton Junction. Beef cattle and additional cavalry will be sent to you. Please read my telegrams very carefully.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 102. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Alex. Seminary, Va., March 24, 1862.

I. Commanders of army corps may grant leaves of absence for fifteen days and division commanders may approve furloughs to enlisted men of their commands; but no leaves or furloughs will be granted during the period of active operations.

II. The commander of an army corps or of a division may grant passes to the officers and men of their commands for the day, which must be signed by one of two staff officers who shall be designated for the purpose, and whose signatures are to be immediately reported to the provost-marshal-general and the military governor of the District of Columbia.

III. The Army of the Potomac being in the field, the basis of the organization, administration, police, discipline, and instruction is by division; and the administrative control exercised by department commanders, under the Army Regulations, now devolves on division com-

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manders, in all that relates to courts-martial as well as to public property, money, and accounts. When by law, regulations, or order division commanders are not competent to act, the case will be submitted to the commander of the corps to which they belong, who will act thereon or transmit it to General Headquarters.

IV. With respect to troops serving within the limits of his command but not assigned to an army corps, the military governor of the District of Columbia will exercise the functions delegated to commanders of divisions and army corps.

V. All troops serving in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, and on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, not assigned to an army corps, will immediately report to Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, commanding at Baltimore, who will exercise, in regard to them, all the functions of army corps and division commanders.

VI. Until the divisions actually join the army corps to which they have been assigned division commanders will exercise the functions of commanders of corps.

VII. The commanding officers of the artillery and cavalry reserves and of the regular infantry will have the same powers as commanders of divisions, except that all applications for leaves of absence to officers must be transmitted for action at these headquarters.

VIII. Commanders of army corps, unattached divisions, and detachments will make to these headquarters every Sunday a consolidated morning report of their commands.

IX. The following provisions will be strictly observed, when not rendered impracticable by the distance to General Headquarters, throughout the active portion of this army:

1st. Commanders of army corps, unattached divisions, and detachments will send messengers to these headquarters at 10 a. m. and 5 p. m. daily for orders.

2d. Orderly hour at these headquarters will be 12 m., at which time daily a staff officer from the headquarters of each army corps and separate command will attend at the office of the assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters for orders.

3d. After every march the commander of each army corps or separate command will either attend in person or send a staff officer to the office of the assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters for orders and to report the location of the headquarters of his corps and each of its divisions.

4th. After every march the chiefs of the staff departments at these headquarters will attend in person or send a staff officer to the office of the assistant adjutant-general for orders, and to report the location of their respective offices.

5th. Commanders of army corps and separate commands will use every means to keep themselves constantly informed of the location of General Headquarters.

X. Brigades in divisions and divisions in army corps will be numbered from right to left; but in reports of operations they will be designated by the names of their commanders.

XI. Flags will be used to designate the various headquarters, as follows:

General Headquarters: National flag.

First Army Corps: National flag with a small square red flag beneath.

Second Army Corps: National flag with a small square blue flag beneath.

Third Army Corps: National flag with a small square blue and red flag, vertical, beneath.

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Fourth Army Corps: National flag with a small square blue and red flag, horizontal, beneath.

First Division of an army corps: Red flag, 6 feet long and 5 feet wide.

Second Division of an army corps: Blue flag, 6 feet long and 5 feet wide.

Third Division of an army corps: Vertical red and blue flag, 6 feet long and 5 feet wide.

Fourth Division of an army corps: Horizontal red and blue flag, 6 feet long and 5 feet wide.

First Brigade of First Division: Red and white flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, vertical.

Second Brigade of First Division: White, red, and white flag, 6 feet long, 5 wide, vertical.

Third Brigade of First Division: Red, white, and red flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, vertical.

First Brigade of Second Division: Blue and white flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, vertical.

Second Brigade of Second Division: White, blue, and white flag, 6 feet long, 5 wide, vertical.

Third Brigade of Second Division: Blue, white, and blue flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, vertical.

First Brigade of Third Division: Red, white, and blue flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, vertical.

Second Brigade of Third Division: Red, blue, and white flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, vertical.

Third Brigade of Third Division: White, red, and blue flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, vertical.

First Brigade of Fourth Division: Red, white, and blue flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, horizontal.

Second Brigade of Fourth Division: Red, blue, and white flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, horizontal.

Third Brigade of Fourth Division: White, red, and blue flag, 6 feet long and 5 wide, horizontal.

The different regiments of the brigades will be designated by numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 on the flag of the brigade to which they belong; white numbers on colored bars and colored numbers on white bars.

The artillery will have the colors of the division to which it belongs and be distinguished by a right-angled triangular flag 6 feet long and 3 feet wide at the staff.

The cavalry have the same as above except that the shape will be swallow-tailed.

The Engineers will have a white disk of a diameter equal to one-third of its width on the flag of the division to which it belongs.

The Regular Brigade will have a white star on a red flag, the regimental number being in the middle of the star.

The hospitals will be distinguished by a yellow flag.

The subsistence depots will be designated by a green flag.

These flags will be attached to a portable staff 14 feet long, in two joints, and will be habitually displayed in front of the tent or from some prominent part of the house or vessel occupied as the headquarters which they designate, and on the march shall be carried near the person of the officer commanding the corps, division, brigade, or regiment it is intended to designate.

The Quartermaster's Department will take immediate measures to supply the flags upon requisitions approved by division commanders.

XII. The brigade quartermaster will be the ammunition officer of the

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brigade, and will be assisted by a sergeant detached for that purpose from the brigade.

The reserve ammunition of artillery is to be in charge of the senior artillery officer of the division, who will also have a sergeant detached, if possible from the artillery, but if not, from the division.

Minor reparations to small-arms will be made by some competent soldier, who will be detailed on extra duty from each brigade for the purpose, to serve under the brigade quartermaster.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 90. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Near Alexandria Seminary, Va., March* 24, 1862.

The cavalry serving with the army is assigned to duty as follows:

To the First Army Corps, McDowell's.—Second New York Cavalry, Col. J. M. Davies; First New York Cavalry, Colonel McReynolds, Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch to have command of the cavalry serving with the First Army Corps.

To the Second Army Corps, Sumner's.—Third New York Cavalry, Col. Van Alen; Eighth Illinois Cavalry, Colonel Farnsworth, heretofore serving with Hamilton's division, Third Corps; one squadron of the Sixth New York Cavalry, Colonel Devin. Brigadier-General ——— will report to General Sumner for the command of the cavalry serving with his corps.

To the Third Army Corps, Heintzelman's.—Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Averell; First New Jersey Cavalry, Colonel Wyndham.

To the Fourth Corps, Keyes'.—First Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Bayard, now serving with McCall's division, First Corps; Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry (late Friedman's); Fourth New York Cavalry, Colonel Dickel, now serving with Blenker's division, Second Corps.

To the Fifth Corps, Banks'.—Fifth New York Cavalry, Colonel De Forest; First Vermont Cavalry, Colonel Holliday; First Michigan Cavalry, Colonel Brodhead; First New England Cavalry, Colonel Lawton; First Maine Cavalry, Colonel Allen; the Maryland Cavalry, eighteen companies, the battalion of Pennsylvania Cavalry, and the squadron of Virginia Cavalry now with Shields' division.

The Cavalry Reserve will be commanded by Brig. Gen. P. St. George Cooke, U. S. Army, and will consist of two brigades, as follows:

First Brigade, to be commanded by Brig. Gen. W. H. Emory: Fifth U. S. Cavalry, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, Sixth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Rush.

Second Brigade, to be commanded by Col. George A. H. Blake, First Cavalry: First U. S. Cavalry, Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Gregg, now serving with Porter's division, Third Army Corps; Barker's squadron of Illinois Cavalry, Captain Mann's company of Oneida Cavalry.

The Third Indiana Cavalry, now with Hooker's division, Third Army Corps, to report for duty to Brig. Gen. James S. Wadsworth, military governor of the District of Columbia.

Such of the above-named regiments and detachments as are not now serving with the commands to which they are assigned will be immediately reported by letter to the commanders indicated, but will continue on duty as at present until further orders.

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A full report of the strength and condition of each regiment and detachment of cavalry will be immediately forwarded to these headquarters through the chief of cavalry.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FORT MONROE,
March 25, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Nothing of importance has occurred since yesterday. Brigadier-General Smith's division has arrived. The rebels increasing their force in and around Norfolk. It cannot be less than 20,000.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS PORTER'S DIVISION,
Camp on Southwest Branch Back River, Va., March 25, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Commanding Third Army Corps:

GENERAL: I did not, as I designed on moving here, post any pickets on the roads upon opposite bank leading toward Big Bethel. I intended to scour the woods with skirmishers, but fearing it might indicate a contemplated movement in that direction I countermanded the order. The river is picketed from the upper to the lower bridge; I do not, however, consider it sufficient, and shall, if not otherwise directed, post a few men to give timely warning of the advance of an enemy. I am too far distant to be injured by infantry, and trust my artillery will be able to prevent the same arm acting on the other side.

I understand it to be the wish of the major-general commanding that no reconnaissance except in strong force shall be made to the front.

At present I cannot cross the creek with artillery or horse, owing to the want of covering for the bridge, which was asked for to-day.

A report has just reached me that some drummer-boys of the Thirty-eighth New York on a pillaging expedition on the opposite bank were captured by the enemy to-day, and that a company was sent in pursuit. I know not of its foundation, but will trace it and inform you if such be the case.

There has been much straggling from the troops in rear, and before I arrived here houses on the opposite side were ransacked. I have directed that if any one refuses to return on attempting to cross the sentinel shall shoot. Owing to deficiency of transportation I have not yet been able to get up my command.

If you have a cipher I will be much obliged if you will permit me to copy it; mine I destroyed by mistake.

I will call upon you in the morning about 10 o'clock.

F. J. PORTER,
Brigadier-General.

ALEXANDRIA, *March* 25, 1862—12.15 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

Steamers do not return from Monroe as they should. Have only means to embark one brigade of Couch's division to-day. I have two

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other brigades ready in case steamers arrive. Five heavy batteries of reserve nearly embarked. Averell's regiment of cavalry has been off some hours. Regular cavalry begin to embark to-day.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Seminary, March 25, 1862—10.10 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I send copies of dispatch received from General Smith and my consequent telegram to General Wool. There may be some good reason for General Wool's order, but I hope that no unnecessary delay will be permitted. One brigade only embarked to-day for want of transportation. Several reserve batteries and one regiment regular cavalry embarked to-day. To-morrow we shall do much better, as transports have been arriving this afternoon and evening.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosures.]

FORT MONROE, *March* 25, 1862.

General GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, *Commanding:*

General Wool last night ordered the quartermaster not to allow my troops to land here, but to send them all to Hampton. I have landed most of the troops here. The next division will have trouble. It will be a very slow business to land at Hampton many troops for several reasons, based upon the depth and width of the channel and one wharf.

WM. F. SMITH,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Seminary, March 25, 1862—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL, *Fort Monroe:*

General Smith informs me that you have directed that no more troops be landed at Fort Monroe, but that they be sent to Hampton. I urgently request that no steps may be taken to retard the landing of troops, as it is a matter of the first importance to have the transports back here without an hour's unnecessary delay. Our success depends much upon rapidity now.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.,
March 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL, *Fort Monroe:*

GENERAL: You have been informed from the Department that the expedition now in progress, under the direction of General McClellan, is regarded as of paramount importance, and you have been desired to waive the exercise of your authority in his favor pending the expedi-

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tion. The President directs that these views be now communicated as orders, which will be observed in conformity with the closing paragraph of the sixty-second article of war, the President having specially directed the command to be exercised by General McClellan.

By order of the President:

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
March 26, 1862—10.10 a. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

It is specially directed by the President, under the Sixty-second Article of War, that Fort Monroe and all the forces there or that may be there shall be commanded by you until further orders.

By order of the President:

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS FORT MONROE, VA.,
March 26, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

It is reported by intelligent persons (deserters) from Norfolk that the Merrimac is ready to come out, somewhat better prepared to encounter the Monitor. They say that one of the guns had been replaced by one of larger caliber, with balls and fixed spikes. I have just received your dispatch of this date. Will answer by special messenger to-morrow.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *March* 26, 1862.
(Received 5.45 p. m.)

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

The troops of the Army of the Potomac are encamped in and beyond Hampton. To facilitate the landing of troops and supplies I had the docks at Hampton repaired. I ordered the troops to be transported by water to Hampton instead of 3 miles by land, the mud almost knee-deep at the time. The object of my orders were greater dispatch and to keep the men out of the hospitals. None of your officers are more anxious on this subject than myself.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

(Copy to Secretary of War.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Alexandria, March 26, 1862—12.30 p. m.

General SUMNER, *Second Corps:*

On Sunday the enemy, who had returned toward Winchester, were engaged within 3 miles of that place by General Shields and completely

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routed, losing two guns, 350 killed, over 1,000 wounded, and some 300 prisoners. The rebels in full retreat. Banks in pursuit. Was last night 5 miles south of Strasburg. It is said that the rebels expect reenforcements near Mount Jackson to the amount of 30,000 men. This is not probable, but it will be well for you to keep well on the lookout in front and on your right, and be cautious, while vigorous. Please keep me fully informed as to state of affairs, and let me know by return messenger the last news you have from the enemy in your front.

I think cause of enemy's return toward Winchester was false intelligence he had used to the effect that we had abandoned Winchester. Report to me fully the state of affairs from Warrenton Junction, that I may be able to judge whether your main body should advance beyond that point or not. It is important to know whether the rebels burn the Rappahannock Bridge.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, U. S. Army.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 110. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Alex. Seminary, Va., March* 26, 1862.

I. The duties of the chiefs of artillery and cavalry are exclusively administrative, and these officers will be attached to the headquarters of the Army of the Potomac.

They will be required to inspect the artillery and cavalry whenever it may be necessary, and will be responsible that they are properly equipped and supplied.

They will not exercise command of the troops of their arms unless specially ordered by the commanding general, but they will, when practicable, be selected to communicate the orders of the general to their respective corps.

All requisitions for officers and men and for supplies for the artillery and cavalry, other than the regular supplies furnished by the staff departments on ordinary returns, will be sent to the chiefs of artillery and cavalry; to whom will also be rendered, in addition to those made to General Headquarters and division commanders, such reports of artillery and cavalry practice, marches, actions, and other operations pertaining to these arms as may be necessary to enable them to judge of the efficiency both of men and material.

II. Officers of the staff at any headquarters may correspond direct with officers of their department or corps serving at subordinate headquarters, and give them, in all matters of routine or administration, all orders and instructions, and call for such returns and reports as the good of the service may require; but they will in no case give any order or instructions which will cause interference with another staff department or corps, or will in any way interfere with the duty of the officer with the commander on whose staff he may be serving. When any such order is thought to be necessary application must be made by the staff officer to the assistant adjutant-general or other officer in charge of the department of orders and correspondence.

III. The Provost-Marshal-General has authority to grant passes within the lines of this army.

IV. Paragraph XI, of General Orders, No. 102, current series, so far as relates to the flags designative of the Third and Fourth Army Corps, is modified as follows:

Third Army Corps: National flag with a small square red and blue [instead of blue and red] flag, vertical, beneath.

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Fourth Army Corps: National flag with a small square red and blue [instead of blue and red] flag, horizontal, beneath.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

COMMODORE, *Alexandria, March* 27, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The whole of the regular infantry and Couch's division sailed early this morning. The Fifth Cavalry is embarked, and as many have sailed as motive power permits. The embarkation of reserve artillery is progressing. Some four or five batteries have sailed. Some two brigades of Sedgwick's division will embark to-day. The Sixth Cavalry will also embark to-day. We are pushing it as rapidly as transports arrive and are coaled.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SEMINARY, *March* 27, 1862—9.15 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Have this moment heard from the telegraphic operator at Manassas, dated 9 p. m. He says last heard from General Sumner was at Warrenton Junction 8.30 p. m., and all quiet. Orderly expected soon from Warrenton Junction with answer to your (my) dispatch.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SEMINARY, *March* 27, 1862—5.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General SUMNER, *Near Manassas:*

Major-General McClellan directs me to request that you report immediately the situation of affairs at Warrenton Junction and with your command.

A report is current here that you have had an affair with the enemy. This is supposed not to be correct or you would have reported the fact ere this to headquarters. The general wishes frequent reports from you, at least twice in twenty-four hours, by telegraph. He is unable to give orders to General Banks until he learns your situation.

Very respectfully,

N. B. SWEITZER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS, FORT MONROE,
March 27, 1862—3 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have just now (3 o'clock in the afternoon) arrived at Fort Monroe. We were hindered during the night passing the numerous transports

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in the river. A reconnaissance was made with 8,000 men, under Fitz John Porter, this morning, extending to Big Bethel, which was occupied by about 1,500 rebels, who fled on the appearance of our forces without any fight. Our troops now occupy the place. I shall communicate fully to-morrow morning by telegraph.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS, FORT MONROE, VA.,
March 27, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Brigadier-General Porter this day made a reconnaissance as far as Big Bethel, and, as I anticipated, found nothing but a picket to contend with, which retreated after a few shots in the direction of Yorktown. We have a variety of rumors of a large force at Norfolk and between James River and Yorktown. I think it more than probable that 30,000 may be at Norfolk, and between James River and Yorktown possibly a greater force.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

HAMPTON, *March* 27, 1862—8 p. m.
(Received March 28, 10.30 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

At 5.15 this afternoon General Smith was holding the left bank of Watts' Creek. His men have crossed at the mouth of the creek, and find no batteries there. He is informed that there is a strong force of the enemy at Young's Mill, 4 miles distant. He will return in the morning.

S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Brigadier-General.

HAMPTON, VA., *March* 27, 1862.
(Received March 28, 10.40 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The troops have been to Great Bethel, and only found a cavalry picket, and a short distance beyond about 200 cavalry, who retired.

No news has been received of General Smith's division, which took a road farther to the left, but it is not probable they met any of the enemy. The troops are returning. The earthworks are not formidable.

S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., March 27, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding at Fort Monroe:

GENERAL: Allow me to introduce to you Cornelius Vanderbilt, esq., of New York, and commend him to your confidence and kind attention.

On Saturday last you were informed by telegraph from this Depart-

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ment that the steamship Vanderbilt has been given to the Government and accepted by the President, and assigned to special duty to guard the transports in the service of this Department and to aid in the destruction of the Merrimac. I am waiting for intelligence from you of the arrival of the Vanderbilt, as requested in my telegram, and feared something had delayed her, but Mr. Vanderbilt informs me she arrived on Sunday. I hope that you may find much advantage in the use of the Vanderbilt.

I have also detailed the Metamora, the fastest vessel that could be chartered, to run as a packet between the fortress and Cherrystone Point and guard the telegraphic cable. You will please give such orders as you may deem proper for that purpose.

I have placed the Metamora at the disposal of Mr. Vanderbilt while he is at Fortress Monroe.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., March 27, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL:

GENERAL: Mr. Scott, Assistant Secretary, has just arrived, and brings me your note of the 24th,* stating that you had turned the Vanderbilt over to Flag-Officer Goldsborough. This disposition of the Vanderbilt was not contemplated by my instructions to you nor designed as the mode of employing that vessel. She belongs to the War Department, and is to act exclusively under its orders.

You will therefore take measures to have her placed immediately under command of this Department and relieved from duty under Flag-Officer Goldsborough.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

SEMINARY, VA., *March* 28, 1862—11.45 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. P. HEINTZELMAN, *Fort Monroe:*

Your telegram of yesterday morning received only last night. I hope the movement on Big Bethel was well considered, in view of my wish not to prematurely develop our plans to the enemy. If the destruction of their battery and your subsequent return confirms the idea that we are after Norfolk all is well except the fact of falling back. If this reaches you in time it would be well to hold the position of Big Bethel if its reoccupation by the enemy can give us any trouble. You on the ground can best judge of this.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

SEMINARY, *March* 28—12.15 a. m.

General E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Corps, Warrenton Junction:

I am much surprised that I have not heard one word from you to-

*Not found.

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day. Unless I have constant information from the commanders of all detachments and corps it is impossible for me to arrange general movements. My instructions to you were to report when you reached Warrenton Junction. I learn from other sources that you reached there at 8.30 a. m. on the 27th, yet I have nothing from you. I must insist upon it that I have full information of everything that transpires.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS D'ARMÉE,
Warrenton Junction, March 28, 1862.

General S. WILLIAMS,

A. A. G., Headquarters Army of Potomac, Seminary:

Since General Howard marched he has reported to me that his advance has come up with a squadron of the enemy's cavalry and was skirmishing with it. Having heard nothing further from him, I presume the enemy has been brushed out of his way. Should General Howard be driven back by a superior force, shall I advance instantly with my command beyond this point?

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Comdg. Second Army Corps.

WARRENTON JUNCTION,
March 28, 1862—10 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Your two dispatches of this date have been received. General Howard reports this evening that he is within 3 miles of Rappahannock River, driving a regiment of cavalry before him. He has not seen any infantry in force. I presume all is right. I shall not move on Warrenton until General Howard returns.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

SEMINARY, *March* 28, 1862.
(Sent 10.5 p. m.)

General E. V. SUMNER:

Your dispatch of this date has been received and laid before the commanding general, who directs that in the event of General Howard meeting with a large force of the enemy you at once move to his support, and if you find the enemy's force greatly superior to your own you will cover General Howard's retreat to Warrenton Junction or the strongest position in its vicinity, where you will make a stand and report for further instructions.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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WARRENTON JUNCTION, *March* 28, 1862.
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters, Seminary:

Your telegram just received and all is quiet. I do not believe the enemy is in any force in this vicinity. My command is well in hand.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Corps.

BUDD'S FERRY, *March* 28, 1862.

General WILLIAMS:

I am informed by contrabands just in from the Rappahannock that several regiments have left their camps about Fredericksburg for the South. It is stated that they left for North Carolina. Almost all the rails have been removed from the road between Aquia and Fredericksburg. The common talk is that the rebels intend to burn the bridges at Fredericksburg on our advance.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS OF THE ARMY,
Warrenton Junction, March 28, 1862.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I received during the night and this morning your telegrams of March 27 and March 28—12.30 a. m. I took possession of this junction yesterday afternoon, and immediately sent you the following dispatch by telegraph:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
Warrenton Junction, March 27, 1862.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I hold Warrenton Junction. The enemy abandoned the position on my approach. His force I have not ascertained. A reconnaissance in force will march to-morrow morning toward the Rappahannock Bridge. The reconnaissance will be commanded by Brigadier-General Howard, and will consist of two regiments of cavalry, one battery, and three regiments of infantry. There has been some slight skirmishing, but we have suffered no loss. If I am to remain here for any length of time I would be glad if my other division could be sent to join me.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Second Corps.

General Howard will move immediately to make the reconnaissance toward the Rappahannock Bridge. I should have much preferred to advance with my whole command toward that point, but as your order of March 24 expressly directs me not to proceed beyond this place with the mass of my command I shall await here your further orders. I can take Warrenton without difficulty. Shall I do so?

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Second Corps.

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FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 28, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

A large number of soldiers arrived to-day—it is said 12,000—including several regiments of regulars. I have no official returns of the number. The rebels fired from Sewell's Point a ball that fell among our shipping, within a quarter of a mile of the shore, opposite Camp Hampton.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

CHERRYSTONE, VA., *March* 28, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Yesterday afternoon I visited the Vanderbilt, and found her preparations are far advanced and that she is at any moment ready for action. Her steam is kept constantly up. There are seven steamers here, all ready to act as rams, with more or less efficiency, but by their combined operations abundantly able to destroy the Merrimac. In my judgment it is impossible for the Merrimac to come down to Fort Monroe without being sunk by the rams. She can run up James River; she can attack Newport News, and do what she pleases above Fort Monroe, as the channel above is too narrow and crooked to admit of the steam rams being worked against her with effect; but while remaining up there out of our reach she can do us no harm. Commodore Goldsborough is fully awake to the importance of destroying the Merrimac, and has a clear comprehension of the manner in which that can best be done with the means at his command. I think he will do his duty both skillfully and bravely, and I have no doubt with success. Mr. Vanderbilt fully approves Commodore Goldsborough's plan of battle, and desires the steamer Vanderbilt to remain under Goldsborough's command. I have directed her so to remain until otherwise ordered by you. The large guns are not made as available as they ought to be. The 15-inch gun is not yet ready to be used with any efficiency, although it is mounted upon a carriage. It is important to have the great gun made available immediately for defense against the Merrimac. If you approve I will return this afternoon to aid in making it ready. The officers of two steamers of the French navy, now here, went to Norfolk yesterday under a flag of truce sent by Commodore Goldsborough. On their return this morning they at once got up steam in both ships, although they have had their fires out for the last week. This looks as if they anticipate a naval engagement to come off soon. This is all the information I can gather as to the force and disposition of the rebels. I think they will make no fight this side of Richmond. Our chief difficulty will be to land transportation. I will await your answer here.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 94. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Near Alexandria Seminary, Va., March* 28, 1862.

* * * * * * *

III. Brig. Gen. J. P. Hatch is relieved from duty with the First Army Corps (McDowell's), and will, without delay, report to Maj. Gen. N. P. Banks for the command of the cavalry serving with the Fifth Corps.

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The Seventh New York Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Babbitt; the Sixth New York Cavalry, Colonel Devin; the Tenth New York Cavalry, Colonel Lemon; Pierce's regiment of Pennsylvania cavalry, now in Philadelphia, and Swain's regiment of New York cavalry, now in New York, will report to Major-General Dix for assignment by him to duty under Col. Dixon S. Miles, Second Infantry, in guarding the railways, &c.

Upon the arrival of any three of these regiments General Dix will cause the Tenth Maine, the Sixtieth New York, and First District of Columbia Volunteers to be relieved from duty with his division and ordered to report for duty until further orders to Brig. Gen. James S. Wadsworth, military governor of the District of Columbia, who will concentrate them near Fort Corcoran under the command of the senior officer present.

General Wadsworth will report the execution of this order.

The Quartermaster's Department will furnish necessary transportation for the movement indicated.

By command of Major General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS,
Hampton, March 29, 1862—3 p. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

General Porter's division returned to camp at 6 p. m. Brigade went about 1 mile beyond the Half-way House, nearly 4 miles beyond Big Bethel. His skirmishers, some of Berdan's Sharpshooters, went near to Howard's Branch, at Howell's Mill, where was seen a breastwork. Three deserters who came in yesterday morning from Yorktown report that General Magruder was there with nearly all his force, about 8,000 men, having left a guard of but 500 at Yorktown and in the batteries at Shipping Point. Our cavalry drove in their pickets, but captured none, their horses being too fleet. General Smith's division followed the road near James River from Newport News, encamped for the night at Watts' Creek, and returned to this camp yesterday morning. He reported a strong force at Young's Mill. From the best information I can obtain General Magruder has between 15,000 and 20,000 men under his command.

S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Brigadier-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION,
March 29, 1862—1 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS, *Seminary:*

Express just received from General Howard. He drove the enemy across the Rappahannock Bridge, and is now in camp on this bank of and near the Rappahannock River. The enemy blew up the bridge in his retreat. There was skirmishing during the march and a few shots exchanged by the artillery, without any loss on our side. Their loss, if any, is not known. General Howard will return to this camp to-morrow morning.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Army Corps.

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WARRENTON JUNCTION,
March 29, 1862—2 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS, *Seminary:*

I omitted to state in my last dispatch that General Howard reports that there were two brigades on the opposite bank of the river when he reached it, commanded by Major-General Ewell. The enemy retreated upon his opening fire upon him with his artillery.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Army Corps.

WARRENTON JUNCTION,
March 29, 1862—9.30 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

General Howard will return this morning. Shall I take Warrenton to-morrow? There is much forage in our vicinity. I will send organized parties this morning to collect; certificates will be furnished the owners, specifying that they will be paid fair prices for their property so taken on presentation of the certificates to the proper officer, on condition that they take at the time of presentation the oath of allegiance to the United States.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Second Corps.

MARCH 29, 1862—12.37 p. m.

General E. V. SUMNER,
Warrenton Junction:

Your dispatch of this morning with respect to a movement on Warrenton to-morrow has been laid before the commanding general, who will in the course of the day instruct you upon the subject of your dispatch.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Commodore, March 29, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER,
Warrenton Junction:

Abercrombie's brigade and Colonel Geary's regiment, Banks' division, are supposed to be now near Manassas, and they will be ordered to report to you at Warrenton Junction. On their joining you the commanding general directs that you send Blenker's division back to Manassas, where it will await further instructions from these headquarters.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SEMINARY, *March* 29, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER, *Warrenton:*

The commanding general directs that you at once place a suitable guard over the portion of the line and bridges of the finished portion

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of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad beyond Fairfax Station. The commanding officer at Alexandria will be instructed to guard the part of the road between Fairfax Station and Alexandria. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WARRENTON, *March* 29, 1862.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Seminary:

Your telegram has been received and the necessary orders issued to the commanding officer at Manassas to insure protection to the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Second Corps.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *March* 29, 1862—9 p. m.

General E. V. SUMNER,
Warrenton Junction:

You are authorized to make the movement on Warrenton proposed to-morrow and occupy the town.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
March 29, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I inclose a copy of my Special Orders, No. 5, of March 23, 1862, and of a letter from Brigadier-General Woodbury of this date, in reference to the means of landing my command on the Lower Chesapeake.

It will be seen from General Woodbury's letter that the means on which he has been relying are beyond his reach and under an officer not subject to his or my control. It will therefore be necessary to make such arrangements at the Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac as shall effect the object indicated in my special order, herewith, and that these means be so placed, or the person in charge of them so ordered, that there shall be no failure when the First Corps shall have occasion to land.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

IRVIN MCDOWELL,
Major-General, Commanding First Army Corps.

[Indorsement.]

STEAMER COMMODORE,
March 31, 1862.

The fact that an order of the purport of General McDowell's Special Order, No. 5, had been issued by him was communicated to the com-

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manding general (by telegram March 23, I think) by me, and that it had been issued so as to systematize and commit to one competent person the making of all preparations for a landing.

The reply of the commanding general indicated that he had dispatched part of the means relied on to Fort Monroe, and caused me to presume that he meant to keep the whole subject subject to his decision after arriving at Fort Monroe.

If it is decided that McDowell's corps is to land, and where it is to land, it would certainly be desirable that he should have all his means with him, and it was on this supposition that General McDowell is supposed to have issued the order.

As a large part of the means are, however, presumed to be ordered to Fort Monroe, and there has been some unavoidable causes for so doing, General Woodbury's suggestion seems a proper one.

Whether after arriving at Fort Monroe my duties will permit me to give much personal attention to collecting craft is doubtful, nor do I know whether Captain Duane will be free for this matter.

Would it not be well with the two companies General Woodbury proposes to send to send also the colonel of the New York Fifteenth, a sailor, and well qualified for the collection and management of the scows, &c., which will be collected there.

J. G. BARNARD,
Brigadier-General.

[Inclosure 1.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS, *March* 23, 1862.

I. Captain Duane, Engineers, will report for duty with his battalion to Brigadier-General Woodbury, who is with his brigade, now attached to Franklin's division.

II. Brigadier-General Woodbury is charged with the duty of providing the necessary means of landing a large body of infantry, artillery, and cavalry, with their stores and munitions, from a fleet of transports to the shore, other than such as the Quartermaster's Department may supply, in the way of light-draught steamboats, the number and draught of which he will ascertain and include in his calculations.

It is contemplated embarking the three divisions of the First Corps together, and it is intended they should be disembarked as rapidly as possible and go immediately into action. The Navy is to protect the landing with its armed vessels.

As General Woodbury is aware of the possible places where the landing is to be effected, he will take into account the depth of water and the draught of the transports and the distance they will have to lie from the shore.

By command of Major-General McDowell:

SAML. BRECK,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure 2.]

HEADQUARTERS, &C., *March* 29, 1862.

Major-General MCDOWELL,
Commanding First Army Corps, Alexandria, Va.:

GENERAL: Many of the flats and other craft and all the wooden pontoons required to land men and guns rapidly are now at Fort Monroe.

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Such of these vessels, large and small, as are to be used for the service in question, and are not to be sent back to this place, should be collected at Fort Monroe and put in order for that service.

I propose to send down two companies of the Fiftieth Regiment New York Volunteers to Fort Monroe to assist in the necessary preparations.

I suggest that General McClellan direct Brigadier-General Barnard to give his personal attention to these preparations, and that one or more of the engineer officers attached to the battalion of Captain Duane be detailed for this special service.

Respectfully,

D. P. WOODBURY.

[STEAMER] COMMODORE, *March* 29, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

The transports containing Gorman's brigade have left. The remainder of Hunt's artillery reserve is afloat. All the regular cavalry except the Second Regiment has now embarked. Colonel Ingalls expects to have Casey's division off by to-morrow, except, perhaps, the artillery, and he says that by retaining the transports now here, and including those expected within the next two or three days, and those that take down Casey's division, which are expected to return within sixty hours, he can embark the First Army Corps by Wednesday next. Hooker's division can be embarked on Monday and Tuesday if no other troops are sent after to-morrow.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *March* 30, 1862—9.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

A northeast storm raging. The great guns are ready for efficient action. The fleet of steam rams is ready to receive the Merrimac. She will probably come out when the storm abates, but may remain at Norfolk until McClellan places his army and supplies upon transports; but she can do no harm. The troops are arriving and debarking slowly. If the Merrimac does not come out to-morrow I will return, unless you desire me to remain. Telegraph instructions.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *March* 30, 1862.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, *Headquarters:*

Colonel Farnsworth, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, with eleven companies of his regiment, is in advance, scouting toward the Rappahannock. A brigade is in hand to support him, if necessary. In addition to the three officers reported captured yesterday there are two others now absent—a lieutenant and an assistant surgeon—who are supposed to have been taken prisoners by the enemy's scouts. They left camp without any authority whatever. Stringent orders have been promulgated to the corps with reference to straggling. General Orders, No. 10, March 30, prescribes that no officer or enlisted man shall pass the guards of the bivouac excepting by special permission from these headquarters or when on duty. To insure that all remain within their

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regimental and company lines roll calls are held every hour during the day until tattoo throughout the entire corps. Some few privates are reported as captured by the flying scouts of the enemy. These scouts are, it is supposed, in league with the people living in our vicinity, and it is impossible to decide whether a farmer is a *bona fide* farmer or a Confederate soldier in farmer's clothes.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Corps.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, VA.,
March 30, 1862—9.30 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Colonel Farnsworth, with his regiment (Eighth Illinois Cavalry), has returned from a reconnaissance toward the Rappahannock River. He penetrated to the high ground above the burned bridge, and saw no enemy. He reports that the country is clear between this point and the river. From information derived by questioning the people in the vicinity of his route he is of the opinion that the enemy has retired to the Rapidan.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., March 31, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

The President directs that Blenker's division be sent forward to Harper's Ferry, there to wait further orders, instead of being sent to Fort Monroe. Please acknowledge this order.*

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
March 31, 1862—6.40 p. m. (Received 7 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Dispatch in reference to Blenker's division received. Am I at liberty to move Richardson's division here for embarkation, leaving Blenker to be relieved by Banks, or must Richardson wait? The last arrangement would delay my operations. Shall Blenker move to Harper's Ferry via Washington?

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, U. S. Army.

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *March* 31, 1862—p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

I would respectfully ask to be informed what I am to understand by the withdrawal of the two principal divisions from my army corps, and leaving me the German division only, which, in my opinion, is the least effective division in the whole army.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding Second Corps.

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* See also the President to McClellan on this subject, Series I, Vol. V, pp. 58, 62.

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MARCH 31, 1862—8.50 p. m.

General E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Corps, Warrenton Junction:

By order of the President Blenker's division is to join General Frémont. I shall replace it by a division under General Mansfield.

The purpose of withdrawing the two divisions of your corps is to concentrate your corps in the field of active operations under your personal command. You will receive further instructions to-morrow. In the mean time please have Richardson's division ready to move back in the morning.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WARRENTON JUNCTION,
March 31, 1862—p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Your telegram of 8.50 p. m. is received. Richardson's and Blenker's divisions are at this point, in bivouac. I had intended, under previous orders, to have sent on the arrival of General Abercrombie's to-morrow Blenker's division to Manassas Junction the day after.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Corps.

Abstract from the Return of the Army of the Potomac, commanded by Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, U. S. Army, for March 31, 1862.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
General staff	73	.....	73	73	.....
First Army Corps (McDowell's)*	1,391	32,119	35,943	38,454	68
Second Army Corps (Sumner's)†	1,247	25,531	27,907	31,037	60
Third Army Corps (Heintzelman's)‡	1,370	31,677	35,842	38,849	64
Fourth Army Corps (Keyes')§	1,439	31,480	34,798	37,910	60
Fifth Army Corps (Banks')‖	944	21,759	23,607	32,625	59
Military district of Washington (Wadsworth's)	821	18,078	20,795	22,410	6
Military district of Alexandria (Viele's)	56	1,230	1,404	1,459	.....
Provost-marshal guard (A. Porter's)	32	542	633	711	.....
Regular infantry (Sykes')	153	3,752	4,142	4,765	.....
Regular cavalry (P. St. George Cooke's)	99	2,502	2,771	3,141	.....
Artillery Reserve (Hunt's)	127	2,604	2,906	3,116	100
U. S. Engineer troops (Duane's)	4	224	237	288	.....
Headquarters cavalry escort (McIntyre's)	4	104	113	145	.....
Total	7,760	171,602	191,171	214,983	¶ 417

* Franklin's, McCall's, and King's divisions.
† Richardson's, Blenker's, and Sedgwick's divisions.
‡ Fitz John Porter's, Hooker's, and C. S. Hamilton's divisions, and Averell's Third Pennsylvania Cavalry.
§ Couch's, W. F. Smith's, and Casey's divisions.
‖ A. S. Williams' and Shields' divisions.
¶ The original return shows in the horizontal line of "total" 242 pieces of heavy, 440 of field, and 6 of mountain artillery. The vertical columns show 6 pieces of heavy, 411 of field, and none of mountain. In this abstract only the number of pieces found in the vertical columns is given.

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Abstract from Return of the Department of Virginia, Maj. Gen. John E. Wool, U. S. Army, commanding, for March, 1862.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
Department staff	16	.....	.....	18	.....	.....
Fort Monroe	53	1,203	1,495	1,643	223	28
Camp Hamilton	240	5,492	6,351	6,845	.....	6
Camp Butler	204	5,109	5,892	6,217	.....	10
Fort Wool	6	152	163	181	.....	.....
Total	519	11,956	13,900	14,904	223	44

Organization in the Department of Virginia, March 31, 1862.

FORT MONROE.

Maj. JOSEPH ROBERTS.

10th New York.
99th New York (two companies).
6th Massachusetts Battery.
4th U. S. Artillery (detachment).
Wisconsin Light Artillery.

CAMP BUTLER.

Brig. Gen. J. K. F. MANSFIELD.

20th Indiana.
5th Maryland.
29th Massachusetts.
1st New York.
2d New York.
7th New York.
11th New York.
4th U. S. Artillery, Battery L.

CAMP HAMILTON.

Col. MAX WEBER, Twentieth New York.

1st Delaware.
16th Massachusetts.
1st Michigan.
20th New York.
99th New York (six companies).
58th Pennsylvania.
2d Massachusetts Light Artillery, Battery B.
4th U. S. Artillery, Battery D.
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry.
Mounted Rifles (four companies).

FORT WOOL.

Lieut. Col. G. B. HELLEDAY.

99th New York (two companies).

[APRIL 1, 1862.—For the organization and composition of the troops of the Army of the Potomac sent to the Peninsula in March and early in April, see Series I, Vol. V, pp. 19–21.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Steamer Commodore, April 1, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. S. WADSWORTH,
Military Governor:

The commanding general directs that you order at once 4,000 troops from Washington to Manassas, and that you order to that point as fast as they report to you the Tenth Maine, First District of Columbia, Sixtieth New York, and Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania Regiments, which have been latterly employed upon the duty of guarding the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; also from regiments which the Governor of Pennsylvania has been requested to send to Washington.

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These troops will be instructed to report on their arrival at Manassas to Brigadier-General Sumner, or, in the event of his having left, to Brigadier-General Abercrombie. They will be employed as long as their services may be required for the purpose of constructing the field works to be thrown up at Manassas, which will be laid out by Lieut. Col. B. S. Alexander, aide-de-camp, and constructed under the superintendence of Captain Munther, aide-de-camp and engineer.

The commanding general also directs that you send with the least possible delay a regiment of infantry to Budd's Ferry, to relieve Hooker's division, to arrive before the last of the division leaves, and it will embark on Thursday or Friday of the present week.

The regiment of infantry to be sent to Budd's Ferry will report to Colonel Carter, Third Indiana Cavalry, and be guided by such instructions as that officer may give.

The order heretofore in force in General Hooker's command respecting the intercourse with the Virginia shore will be fully carried out.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

STEAMER COMMODORE, *April* 1, 1862.
(Received April 2, 1 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Have instructed General Sumner to move two brigades of Blenker on Strasburg as soon as he learns that 4,000 men will join him promptly from Wadsworth's command. Please expedite this. My letter explains fully.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 1, 1862.

Brigadier-General WADSWORTH,
Mil. Gov. of the Dist. of Columbia, Washington, D. C.:

If the cavalry under General Hatch has not all left Washington, please direct him to send two regiments to report to General Abercrombie at Warrenton Junction. If General Hatch has left with the four regiments, please send directions for the two regiments in rear to proceed to Warrenton Junction by the shortest route.

The intention is that two of the four regiments are to go to Winchester and two to Warrenton Junction. The regiments assigned to General Hatch are the First Vermont, First New England, Fifth New York, and First Maine Cavalry Regiments.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Steamer Commodore, Midnight, April 1, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER, *Warrenton:*

If you learn of 4,000 men being about to join you from General Wadsworth, you can detach two brigades of Blenker's division, under Gen-

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eral Blenker, and send them by the shortest route to Strasburg. Upon the force joining you at Manassas from General Wadsworth, if matters be entirely quiet in front, you may at once proceed to Fort Monroe to assume command of the two divisions of your corps. Let General Blenker upon reaching Strasburg report to General Banks for instructions.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Steamer Commodore, April 1, 1862.

Maj. Gen. N. P. BANKS,
Commanding Fifth Corps, Strasburg:

I have given General Sumner discretionary orders to move two brigades of Blenker's to Strasburg to-morrow to report to you. Written instructions by mail.

Blenker is ordered to Frémont, but will remain a few days with you until affairs are settled in your front.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 99. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Steamer Commodore, Potomac River, April* 1, 1862.

* * * * * * *

3. By direction of the President, Brig. Gen. Louis Blenker, and the division under his command, will, at the earliest practicable moment, be relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac and transferred to the Mountain Department. In the mean while General Blenker will receive special instructions for his guidance from General Sumner, who will immediately send two brigades of the division, under General Blenker, to Strasburg, to report to General Banks for temporary service, and upon being relieved by him to proceed to Winchester and report for instructions to the Adjutant-General of the Army. The remaining brigade, as soon as the troops drawn from the Railway Brigade, Colonel Miles, reach Manassas, will proceed by the shortest practicable route to rejoin General Blenker.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[APRIL 2, 1862.—For McClellan to Burnside, in reference to co-operation of his forces, see Series I, Vol. IX, p. 374.]

WARRENTON JUNCTION, *April* 2, 1862.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Army of the Potomac, Fort Monroe:

I forward herewith a copy of telegram just received from General Wadsworth for the information of the general commanding:

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WASHINGTON, *April* 2, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER:

I find no regiments really fit to move or go into the field. I will try and get them off on the 4th.

JAS. S. WADSWORTH.

General Abercrombie arrived to-night with five regiments, eight guns, and one squadron of cavalry. A successful reconnaissance has been made to-day by Colonel Farnsworth, with his regiment (the Eighth Illinois Cavalry), as far as the bridge over the Rappahannock. A small party of scouts only was seen, but they were driven out of the way instantly by an equal number of men. Upon the arrival of the regiment near the bridge a piece of artillery opened fire upon it from the opposite bank of the river, but did no damage. Colonel Farnsworth reports from his own observance and from all the information he could obtain that there is only a small force of the enemy at that point. As there will probably be considerable delay in getting the 4,000 men from General Wadsworth's command, would the general commanding approve of my giving General Blenker the necessary instructions for his movement, with directions not to move until the 4,000 men alluded to arrive at Manassas, and proceeding myself at once to join him at Fort Monroe? The greater part of Richardson's division reaches Alexandria to-night.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding, U. S. Army, Second Corps.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, April 2, 1862.

Adjutant-General THOMAS and Major-General HITCHCOCK:

GENERALS: I beg leave to refer to you the following papers:

1st. The President's War Order, No. 3, dated March 8, 1862, marked A.

2d. The report of a council held at Headquarters Fairfax Court-House, March 13, marked B.

3d. The President's instructions to General McClellan, March 13, marked C.

4th. The report of Major-General McClellan, dated on board the steamer Commodore, April 1, addressed to the Adjutant-General [D].

5th. The report of General Wadsworth as to the forces in his command [E].

And upon examination I desire you to report to me whether the President's order and instructions have been complied with in respect to the forces to be left for the defense of Washington and its security and at Manassas, and, if not, wherein those instructions have been departed from.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

A.

PRESIDENT'S GENERAL WAR ORDER, No. 3.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, March 8, 1862.

Ordered, That no change of the base of operations of the Army of the Potomac shall be made without leaving in and about Washington

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such a force as in the opinion of the General-in-Chief and the commanders of all the army corps shall leave said city entirely secure.

That no more than two army corps (about 50,000 troops) of said Army of the Potomac shall be moved *en route* for a new base of operations until the navigation of the Potomac from Washington to the Chesapeake Bay shall be freed from enemy's batteries and other obstructions, or until the President shall hereafter give express permission.

That any movement as aforesaid *en route* for a new base of operations which may be ordered by the General-in-Chief, and which may be intended to move upon the Chesapeake Bay, shall begin to move upon the bay as early as the 18th day of March instant, and the General-in-Chief shall be responsible that it so move as early as that day.

Ordered, That the Army and Navy co-operate in an immediate effort to capture the enemy's batteries upon the Potomac between Washington and the Chesapeake Bay.

A. LINCOLN.

LORENZO THOMAS, *Adjutant-General.*

B.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Fairfax Court-House, March 13, 1862.

A council of the generals commanding army corps at the Headquarters Army of the Potomac were of the opinion—

I. That, the enemy having retreated from Manassas to Gordonsville, behind the Rappahannock and Rapidan, it is the opinion of the generals commanding army corps that the operations to be carried on will be best undertaken from Old Point Comfort, between the York and James River, upon Richmond, provided—

1. That the enemy's vessel the Merrimac can be neutralized.

2. That the means of transportation sufficient for an immediate transfer of the force to its new base can be ready at Washington and Alexandria to move down the Potomac; and

3. That a naval auxiliary force can be had to silence or aid in silencing the enemy's batteries in York River.

4. That the force to be left to cover Washington shall be such as to give an entire feeling of security for its safety from menace.

Unanimous:

II. If the foregoing cannot be, the army should then be moved against the enemy behind the Rappahannock at the earliest possible moment, and the means for reconstructing bridges, repairing railroads, and stocking them with material sufficient for the supplying the army should at once be collected for both the Orange and Alexandria and the Aquia and Richmond Railroads.

Unanimous:

NOTE.—That, with the forts on the right bank of the Potomac fully garrisoned and those on the left bank occupied, a covering force in front of the Virginia line of 25,000 men would suffice.—KEYES, HEINTZELMAN, MCDOWELL.

A total of 40,000 men for the defense of the city would suffice.—SUMNER.

C.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *March* 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

The President having considered the plan of operations agreed upon

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by yourself and the commanders of army corps makes no objection to the same, but gives the following directions as to its execution:

1st. Leave such force at Manassas Junction as shall make it entirely certain that the enemy shall not repossess himself of that position and line of communication.

2d. Leave Washington entirely secure.

3d. Move the remainder of the force down the Potomac, choosing a new base at Fort Monroe or anywhere between here and there; or at all events move such remainder of the army at once in pursuit of the enemy by some route.*

Transmitted 7 o'clock 45 minutes.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

D.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Steamer Commodore, April 1, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have to request that you will lay the following communication before the honorable Secretary of War:

The approximate numbers and positions of the troops left near and in rear of the Potomac are about as follows:

General Dix has, after guarding the railroads under his charge, sufficient troops to give him 5,000 for the defense of Baltimore and 1,988 available for the Eastern Shore, Annapolis, &c. Fort Delaware is very well garrisoned by about 400 men.

The garrisons of the forts around Washington amount to 10,600 men; other disposable troops now with General Wadsworth being about 11,400 men.

The troops employed in guarding the various railways in Maryland amount to some 3,359 men. These it is designed to relieve, being old regiments, by dismounted cavalry, and to send forward to Manassas.

General Abercrombie occupies Warrenton with a force which, including Colonel Geary at White Plains and the cavalry to be at his disposal, will amount to some 7,780 men, with twelve pieces of artillery.

I have the honor to request that all the troops organized for service in Pennsylvania and New York and in any of the Eastern States may be ordered to Washington. I learn from Governor Curtin that there are some 3,500 men now ready in Pennsylvania. This force I should be glad to have sent at once to Manassas. Four thousand men from General Wadsworth I desire to be ordered to Manassas. These troops, with the railroad guard above alluded to, will make up a force under the command of General Abercrombie to something like 18,639 men.

It is my design to push General Blenker's division from Warrenton upon Strasburg. He should remain at Strasburg long enough to allow matters to assume a definite form in that region before proceeding to his ultimate destination.

The troops in the valley of the Shenandoah will thus—including Blenker's division, 10,028 strong, with twenty-four pieces of artillery; Banks' Fifth Corps, which embraces the command of General Shields, 19,687 strong, with forty-one guns; some 3,652 disposable cavalry, and the railroad guards, about 2,100 men—amount to about 35,467 men.

* See also Stanton to McClellan, March 13, 5.20 p. m., and McClellan to Stanton, 6.15 p. m., same date, Series I, Vol. V, pp. 750, 751.

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It is designed to relieve General Hooker by one regiment, say 850 men, leaving, with some 500 cavalry, 1,350 men on the Lower Potomac.

To recapitulate:

	Men.
At Warrenton there are to be	7,780
At Manassas, say	10,859
In the valley of the Shenandoah	35,467
On the Lower Potomac	1,350
In all	55,456

There would thus be left for the garrisons and the front of Washington under General Wadsworth some 18,000 men, exclusive of the batteries under instruction.

The troops organizing or ready for service in New York I learn will probably number more than 4,000. These should be assembled at Washington, subject to disposition where their services may be most needed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

E.

HDQRS. MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON,
Washington, D. C., April 2, 1862.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following condensed statements of the forces left under my command for the defense of Washington:

Infantry	15,335
Artillery	4,294
Cavalry (six companies only mounted)	848
	20,477
Deduct sick and in arrest and confinement	1,455
Total present for duty	19,022

I have no mounted light artillery under my command. Several companies of the reserve artillery of the Army of the Potomac are still here, but not under my command or fit for service.

From this force I am ordered by General McClellan to detail two regiments (good ones) to Richardson's division (Sumner's corps) as it passes through Alexandria, one regiment to replace the Thirty-seventh New York Volunteers in Heintzelman's old division, one regiment to relieve a regiment of Hooker's division at Budd's Ferry; total, four regiments. I am also further ordered this morning by telegraph to send 4,000 men to relieve General Sumner at Manassas and Warrenton, that he may embark forthwith.

In regard to the character and efficiency of the troops under my command, I have to state that nearly all the force is new and imperfectly disciplined; that several of the regiments are in a very disorganized condition from various causes which it is not necessary to state here; several regiments having been relieved from brigades which have gone into the field in consequence of their unfitness for service; the best regiments remaining having been selected to take their place. Two heavy artillery regiments and one infantry regiment, which had

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been drilled for some months in artillery service, have been withdrawn from the forts on the south side of the Potomac, and I have only been able to fill their places with very new infantry regiments entirely unacquainted with the duties of that arm, and of little or no value in their present position.

I am not informed of the position which Major-General Banks is directed to take, but at this time he is, as I understand, on the other side of the Bull Run Mountains, leaving my command to cover the front from Manassas Gap (about 20 miles beyond Manassas) to Aquia Creek.

I deem it my duty to state that, looking at the numerical strength and character of the force under my command, it is in my judgment entirely inadequate to and unfit for the important duty to which it is assigned.

I regard it very improbable that the enemy will assail us at this point, but this belief is based upon the hope that they may be promptly engaged elsewhere and may not learn the number and character of the force left here.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JAS. S. WADSWORTH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Answer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 2, 1862.

In compliance with your instructions we have examined the papers submitted to us, and have the honor to make the following report:

1. The President's War Order, No. 3, dated March 8, requires that on taking up any new base of operations the city of Washington shall be left entirely secure. The other points of the order it is unnecessary to consider, as the enemy, since its date, have abandoned their position and batteries on the Potomac and retired behind the Rappahannock.

2. The council of general officers held at Fairfax Court-House, March 13, took place after the enemy had retired from Manassas and destroyed the railroads in their rear. The council decided unanimously to take up a new base of operations from Fort Monroe, and three of the generals, a majority, decided that the force necessary to be left should be sufficient to "fully garrison" the forts on the right bank of the Potomac, and to "occupy" those on the left bank with a covering force of 25,000. It is, we think, the judgment of officers that some 30,000 men would be necessary thus to man these forts, which, with the number of the covering force, would make a total of 55,000.

3. The President's directions of March 13 to General McClellan directs:

1st. To leave such a force at Manassas Junction as shall make it entirely certain that the enemy may not repossess it.

2d. That Washington shall be left entirely secure.

3d. That the remainder of the army move down the Potomac or move in pursuit of the enemy.

In regard to occupying Manassas Junction, as the enemy have destroyed the railroads leading to it it may be fair to assume that they have no intention of returning for the reoccupation of their late position, and therefore no very large force would be necessary to hold that position.

4. Major-General McClellan's report to the Adjutant-General of April 1, after giving the several positions of the troops proposed to be left for the defense of Washington, gives a representation as follows:

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	Men.
At Warrenton there are to be	7,780
At Manassas, say	10,859
In the valley of the Shenandoah	35,467
On the Lower Potomac	1,350
In all	55,456

And there would be left for the garrisons and the front of Washington, under General Wadsworth, some 18,000.

In the above enumeration General Banks' army corps is included, but whether this force operating in the Shenandoah Valley should be regarded as part of the force available for the protection of the immediate front of Washington the undersigned express no opinion.

5. General Wadsworth's report of April 2 gives his force as follows:

Infantry	15,335
Artillery	4,294
Cavalry (six companies only mounted)	848
	20,477
Deduct sick, in arrest, and confinement	1,455
Total for duty	19,022

From this force General Wadsworth is directed to detach two good regiments to Richardson's division, Sumner's corps, which should be deducted from his command; one regiment to replace the Thirty-seventh New York in Heintzelman's old division, and one regiment to relieve a regiment of Hooker's division at Budd's Ferry; total, four regiments. He is also ordered to send 4,000 men to relieve Sumner at Manassas and Warrenton.

General Wadsworth represents that he has no mounted light artillery under his command; states there are several companies of reserve artillery still here, but not under his command or fit for service.

General Wadsworth further reports that nearly all the force is new and imperfectly disciplined; that several of the regiments are in a very disorganized condition, some of them having been relieved from brigades which have gone into the field in consequence of their unfitness for service, the best regiments remaining having been selected to take their places. Two heavy artillery regiments and one infantry regiment which had been drilled for months in artillery service have been withdrawn from the forts on the south side of the Potomac and their places supplied with new infantry regiments entirely unacquainted with the duties of that arm and of little or no value in their present position.

If there was need of a military force for the safety of the city of Washington within its own limits that referred to in the report of General Wadsworth would seem to be entirely inadequate.

In view of the opinion expressed by the council of the commanders of army corps of the force necessary for the defense of the capital, though not numerically stated, and of the force represented by General McClellan as left for that purpose, we are of opinion that the requirement of the President that this city shall be left entirely secure, not only in the opinion of the General-in-Chief, but that of the commanders of all the army corps also, has not been fully complied with.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.
E. A. HITCHCOCK,
Major-General Volunteers, U. S. Army.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 2, 1862.

ORDER OF MARCH.

Porter's and Hamilton's divisions, of the Third Army Corps, and Sedgwick's and Averell's cavalry, of the Second Army Corps, under Brigadier-General Heintzelman, will move on the 4th instant in the following order:

Porter's division, with Averell's cavalry, at 6 a. m., over the New Market and New Bridges, on both roads, to Big Bethel and Howard's Bridge. This division will send forward to the batteries where the road to Ship Point diverges from the main Yorktown road a force sufficient to occupy that point and cut off the garrison of Ship Point batteries. The remainder of the division will camp at Howard's Creek.

Hamilton's division will march at 7 a. m. by the road over the New Bridge to Big Bethel, and will camp as near as possible to Howard's Creek.

Sedgwick's division will march at 8 a. m. over the New Market Bridge, taking the direct road to Big Bethel. This division will camp as close as possible to Hamilton's.

The first two divisions of the Fourth Corps, under Brigadier-General Keyes, will move on the 4th instant at 6 a. m. by the James River road.

Smith's division to Young's Mill, sending one brigade forward to the road from Big Bethel to Warwick.

Couch's division will camp at Fisher's Creek.

The reserve artillery and infantry will move at 9 o'clock on the 4th instant by the New Market Bridge and the direct road to Big Bethel, then taking the Warwick Court-House road, and camp in the vicinity of the junction of this road with the Young's Mill road.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

———— ————,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HAMPTON ROADS, *April* 3, 1862—12.15 a. m.
(Received 10 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Have seen Goldsborough, and feel sure that he will crush the Merrimac if she appears. Hope to move to-morrow. My only trouble is the scarcity of wagons, but I will overcome the difficulty in some way or other. We shall not get through without a hard battle, and perhaps more than one, but I am confident that we will win.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HAMPTON ROADS, *April* 3, 1862—12.20 a. m.

Hon. JOHN TUCKER,
Assistant Secretary of War:

We need many more tugs; please send ten more here at once. If you can procure promptly about six light-draught ferry-boats they would be of great use.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., April 3, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Hampton Roads:

The additional ferry-boats and tugs required shall be sent promptly if it is possible to obtain them.

JOHN TUCKER,
Assistant Secretary of War.

FORTRESS MONROE, *April* 3, 1862.
(Received April 3, 1862—8.10 p. m.)

General SUMNER:

I expect to move from here to-morrow morning on Yorktown, where a force of some 15,000 of the rebels are in intrenched position, and I think it quite possible they will attempt to resist us. No appearance of the Merrimac as yet. Commodore Goldsborough is quite confident he can sink her when she comes out.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Warrenton Junction, April 3, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I am under orders to proceed to Fort Monroe, where my command is being rapidly concentrated, as soon as General Abercrombie reaches this place with his brigade and when I hear the additional force ordered from General Wadsworth's command is approaching Manassas. General Abercrombie arrived last night with 5,200 men. Colonel Geary's force of 1,400 men is expected shortly, and the brigade of 3,000 men from Blenker's division, ordered to be left at this point after General Blenker marches with two brigades to report at Strasburg to General Banks, will make in all 9,600 at this place. Shall I proceed at once to the head of my corps at Fort Monroe? I would ask the favor of an early reply.

E. V. SUMNER.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington, April 3, 1862.*

Brigadier-General SUMNER:

Your telegram has been received. The Department does not require any change in the instructions given you by General McClellan. You will proceed according to his instructions, and embark your forces as soon as you are satisfied there is in position sufficient force to hold the country. General McDowell has been ordered to supply the force that was directed to be furnished by General Wadsworth for the relief of your force at Manassas and Warrenton.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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WARRENTON JUNCTION, *April* 3, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

There are no troops now here belonging to my army corps except Farnsworth's cavalry, and this regiment is ordered to remain here till the two regiments of horse arrive which have been ordered here. Richardson's division, the last of my corps, went to Alexandria yesterday, by order of General McClellan. Under these circumstances, is it intended that I shall stay here till the troops from McDowell's corps reach Manassas?

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, April 3, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER,
Warrenton Junction:

You are expected to hold your position until relieved by such force as you think sufficient to maintain it. This I understand to be [the] import of the order given you by General Marcy this evening. It is desirable that nothing should be abandoned that has been gained from the enemy if it can be held.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., April 3, 1862—12.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding Fort Monroe,

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Commanding the Army of the Potomac:

The orders recently issued from this Department, placing the troops within the command of Major-General Wool at the disposal of Major-General McClellan, will not be so construed as to authorize a reduction of the force under General Wool below what, in the opinion of General Wool, may be necessary for the safety of his position and its dependencies. General Wool will continue in command of Fort Monroe and the troops heretofore assigned to the Department of Virginia, and General McClellan will command the troops constituting the Army of the Potomac.

All prior orders conflicting with this order are revoked.

By order of the President:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, *April* 3, 1862.

The Secretary of War will order that one or the other of the corps of General McDowell and General Sumner remain in front of Washington until further orders from the Department, to operate at or in the direc-

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tion of Manassas Junction, or otherwise, as occasion may require; that the other corps not so ordered to remain go forward to General McClellan as speedily as possible; that General McClellan commence his forward movements from his new base at once, and that such incidental modifications as the foregoing may render proper be also made.

A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, April 4, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN, U. S. A.,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, Fort Monroe:

GENERAL: The President, deeming the force to be left in front of Washington insufficient to insure its safety, has directed that McDowell's army corps should be detached from the forces operating under your immediate direction.

Major-General McDowell has accordingly been instructed to report for orders to the Secretary of War. Colonel Bayard's regiment of cavalry has been reannexed to McDowell's army corps by the Secretary's direction. The Secretary has also directed that Colonel Rucker, Quartermaster Department, shall remain on duty in this city, and that no troops shall be sent to relieve those near Manassas, in view of the new arrangements of McDowell's corps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 4, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We are getting on very quietly and harmoniously. Major-General McClellan will move to-day on Yorktown. I will with my force occupy the stations abandoned by the rebels as the general advances. This will protect his left flank, which will relieve him from the necessity of a strong force to protect his rear and left flank, which was suggested by myself, which the general readily assented to, and as a much better plan than giving up Newport News. Captain Nims' battery is still here, and cannot get away for several days. I consulted General McClellan on the batteries remaining here. He says General Butler is very well supplied with artillery. This battery or some other will be indispensable to assist in maintaining the positions which no doubt will be abandoned on James River when the Army of the Potomac advances toward Richmond.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

BIG BETHEL, VA., *April* 4, 1862—5.50 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Our advance is at Cockletown, within 5 miles of Yorktown. Slight skirmishing to-day. Have turned Ship Point battery. Our cavalry probably in it now. I push supplies and troops on it at once, making

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it a new depot. It is said by deserters and inhabitants that re-enforcements are arriving at Yorktown from Richmond. I expect to fight to-morrow, as I shall endeavor to cut the communication between Yorktown and Richmond.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

GREAT BETHEL, *April* 4—10.30 p. m.,
(Via Fort Monroe, April 5—10 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have occupied Ship Point battery, which is very strong. The enemy evince determination to hold Yorktown. In that case we shall have fighting to-morrow. I move all my available troops at an early hour in the morning.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. MILITARY DIST. OF WASHINGTON, D. C.,
April 4, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to report that on the 28th ultimo I was ordered by General McClellan to assign from my command two good regiments to French's and Howard's brigades, Richardson's division, Sumner's corps, to join that command in its embarkation at Alexandria.

I was likewise ordered at the same time to replace the Thirty-seventh New York Volunteers in Heintzelman's division, that it (the Thirty-seventh) might be assigned to Meagher's brigade.

Referring you to my letter of the 2d instant for a statement of the character and amount of the force at this point and the reasons for urging that it should not be diminished, I have now further to state that, after a careful inspection of the forces under my command I do not find any regiments fit to take the field. I beg leave to ask your instructions under these circumstances. As Sumner's corps will embark, as I understand, to-morrow, it is desirable that I should receive your command at once.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. S. WADSWORTH,
Brigadier-General and Military Governor.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April* 4, 1862.
(Sent 2.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Fort Monroe:

Two new departments have this day been created: one called the Department of the Shenandoah, under the command of Major-General Banks, comprising that portion of Virginia and Maryland lying between the Mountain Department and the Blue Ridge; the other to be called

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the Department of the Rappahannock, under the command of Major-General McDowell, comprising that portion of Virginia east of the Blue Ridge and west of the Potomac and the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad, including the District of Columbia and the country between the Potomac and Patuxent.

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Fort Monroe, April 4, 1862.

Maj. Gen. I. MCDOWELL,
Commanding First Corps:

GENERAL: The information I have obtained here has induced me to move forward the troops for whom I have wagons, in order to invest Yorktown.

I still think that it will be advisable for you to land at least one division on the Severn, in order to insure the fall of Gloucester. I have therefore telegraphed to Franklin and Rucker to get your First Division embarked as soon as possible (supposing you will be here by this morning) to make this movement.

I hope to turn the battery at Ship Point this afternoon or early to-morrow morning and to get in rear of Yorktown to-morrow. I can therefore tell to-morrow what is the best disposition to make of your corps. It will probably be best to land one division on the Severn and to hold the others ready to move up the York River immediately upon the fall of Yorktown. My headquarters will be at Big Bethel to-night.

I had a full conversation with Flag-Officer Goldsborough and Captain Missroon last evening, and would be glad if you will see them also.

You know that we are substantially weakened to the extent of two divisions; first, by the loss of Blenker; next, by the rescinding of the order placing this fort and its dependencies under my command.

If you can get up to Big Bethel I can take care of you to-night and make you comfortable. Should I miss you, I will write fully, as events develop themselves.

Very truly, yours,

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *April* 5, 1862—1 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have heard some firing in the direction of Yorktown. Two or three regiments have gone to Shipping Point, where a depot is to be established for the Army of the Potomac. From information received to-day it appears that the Merrimac is in the dry-dock, loaded with coal. She is to come out of the dock to-day with two more guns, one of large caliber. I have moved up troops to protect McClellan's left flank. All goes on very smoothly. I do not believe the Army of the Potomac will find many troops to contend with.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Young's Mill, April 5, 1862—6 a. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

SIR: The head of Smith's column is now in motion toward Warwick Court-House. From the best information I can obtain there is a large force, with three guns in position and strong breastworks, about 6 miles from here, on the direct road to the Half-way House, at a place called Lee's Mill. It is my opinion that we shall encounter very serious resistance. If so, we shall not be able to reach the Half-way House on the Yorktown and Williamsburg road to-day. As far as I can learn the best way to send me re-enforcements will be to take the road to the left from the road to Yorktown near Dr. Powers' house.

I respectfully suggest that a strong reserve force be within my reach.

General Smith states that he has no reserve ammunition for his artillery.

Our wagons did not arrive last night, and we shall be obliged to halt at Warwick Court-House for the infantry reserve ammunition to come up.

It is a heavy march to the Half-way House even without opposition, and at Warwick Court-House our train would be liable to capture. I shall leave a regiment and a portion of a battery there; but I would respectfully suggest that at least a brigade be ordered forward to that point from Newport News or some other force below.

As we have no reserve artillery ammunition, I would respectfully suggest that two batteries of the reserve artillery be sent forward to me without delay.

I shall send this by an officer, in order that you may send word back to me immediately, and also that he may bring me information as to the roads.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

P. S.—7.15 a. m. The roads are very bad ahead. Shall I push on to Half-way House if artillery cannot get along fast enough? I suppose not, of course.

In haste,

E. D. KEYES.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
One mile beyond Warwick Court-House, April 5, 1862—11 a. m.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: The last of General Smith's division has just closed up at Warwick Court-House, the First Brigade being in line of battle at this point. Two contrabands report that the enemy is in very great strength just in front of us, with the means of overflowing the ground in front of his strongest battery, which is at a distance estimated by them between 1½ and 3 miles. I am trying to get information, but as yet have nothing except vague conjecture to send, nor can I ascertain much about the roads between this and your headquarters. I have, however, found a mulatto, who professes to know the road and will go over as a guide. I will send another dispatch in a very short time by another road, as I fear there may be great uncertainty about this reaching you.

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The roads are execrable at one point near this. The empty ambulances could not get through, and a road had to be cut through the woods.

This dispatch has been delayed in the hope that I might get some positive information to send, but I have as yet not succeeded.

It will be as much as the wagons can do to arrive here during the whole day, and considering the proximity to the river, I am more and more of opinion that a large force should be sent up from below to protect them. The engineers are now out making a reconnaissance. As soon as they return I will make another report.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
One mile beyond Warwick Court-House, April 5, 1862—3 p. m.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY, *Chief of Staff:*

SIR: I am in receipt of your note of this date of 9.50 a. m.

I am stopped by the enemy's works at Lee's Mill, which offer a severe resistance. The road through the woods for nearly a mile having become absolutely impassable for artillery, I am cutting a new road through. One battery is replying to the enemy and another is nearly or quite through.

The whole of Smith's division is in front of the woods and moving up, and I have just detached Graham's brigade (Couch's division) to my left and front to intercept the enemy's riflemen, which General Smith reports have gone down Warwick River to their right.

I have not been able yet to ascertain the strength of the enemy. His position is a strong one, and I learn from a mulatto, who appears to be quite intelligent, that Warwick River is nowhere fordable, having been dammed up in several places all the way to the pond at the head of it, which is only a few miles from Yorktown. He states also that there are fortifications in a number of places along the river. Mulberry Island is therefore a very strong place. The river is without bridges, and a canal-boat near the mill was burned this morning. The mulatto also states that the enemy are very much afraid of the gunboats, which they expect to attack Yorktown, and says that they will retreat if the boats appear.

I have still one brigade left at Warwick Court-House, and I deem it necessary to have them remain there until relieved.

Young's Mill is also a very strong place; is defensible on both sides, and a force should also be stationed there.

Inclosed I send you the result of the examination of three prisoners, belonging to the Tenth Georgia Regiment, and just now brought within our lines.

5.15 p. m.—Since writing the above Smith has continued to engage the enemy in front, and he can hold his position easily enough. At this moment he is sending out a party to his right, to see if he can turn their works. I have sent two regiments of Graham's brigade down to our left, and he reports that he has discovered a battery 2 or 3 miles below the works we were previously engaging above. He was fired upon from two guns.

About two hours ago the enemy were seen filing out of their works and going down the Warwick River, and I this moment learn from

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General Couch that he has just seen them some distance below Lee's Mill, on the opposite side of that river, moving down. I have been busy ever since, and am now engaged in endeavoring to ascertain what this movement means, and have returned to Warwick Court-House for that purpose, where I shall probably remain to-night, unless needed elsewhere. For the present I consider this the most important point for me to be in, until I learn the meaning of the enemy's movement down the river.

My scouts now report the enemy down at the left.

I remain, &c.,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Army Corps.

NEAR YORKTOWN, *April* 5, 1862—7.30 p. m.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

The enemy are in large force along our front, and apparently intend making a determined resistance. A reconnaissance just made by General Barnard shows that their line of works extends across the entire Peninsula from Yorktown to Warwick River. Many of them are very formidable. Deserters say they are being re-enforced daily from Richmond and from Norfolk. Under these circumstances I beg that you will reconsider the order detaching the First Corps from my command. In my deliberate judgment the success of our cause will be imperiled by so greatly reducing my force when it is actually under the fire of the enemy and active operations have commenced. Two or three of my divisions have been under fire of artillery most of the day. I am now of the opinion that I shall have to fight all the available force of the rebels not far from here. Do not force me to do so with diminished numbers. But whatever your decision may be, I will leave nothing undone to obtain success. If you cannot leave me the whole of the First Corps, I urgently ask that I may not lose Franklin and his division.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington, April* 5, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding Fort Monroe:

Please say whether you have received Adjutant-General's order placing Fort Monroe and vicinity entirely under your command. Send a boat across to-night with full report of to-day's proceedings. Direct Heiss and the party engaged in laying the cable to lose no time, if [the] weather calm, in getting ready. They should leave Fort Monroe early in the morning and be at the break by daylight.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Big Bethel, April 5, 1862.

Brig. Gen. STEWART VAN VLIET,
Acting Quartermaster-General,
Army of the Potomac, Fort Monroe:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to say that he finds the enemy in force a short distance in front, and too strongly in-

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trenched to admit of his positions being carried by assault. It may, and probably will, therefore, unless the enemy should retire, of which there are at present no indications, be necessary for the commanding general to resort to some of the operations of a siege, and he wishes you to forward without delay to Shipping Point the siege train and mortars; also Colonel Tyler's regiment.

He also desires you to establish a large depot for all kinds of supplies at Shipping Point, and thinks it would be well for you to send Colonel Ingalls at once to that place to make extensive arrangements for the forwarding of sfores up the Poquosin River to the vicinity of Howard's Bridge. Boats drawing about 5 feet will be necessary for this purpose. The troops that may henceforth arrive at Fort Monroe for the Army of the Potomac will until further orders be sent to Shipping Point. Warren's regiment may come up that route, unless he has transportation, in which event he can march. General Casey, as soon as you can supply him with transportation, is to join General Keyes.

The commanding general desires me to impress upon you the necessity of throwing forward supplies of all kinds as rapidly as possible. You are desired to inform Mr. Eckert that the general wishes him to establish a telegraph line at once between headquarters and Shipping Point.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PORT MONROE, VA., *April* 6, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have received your dispatches of the 5th instant. I have not received your order referred to, but Major-General McClellan showed me the order. We are getting on very harmoniously, and I am doing all I can to aid the general in his movements. I will send you a report by mail showing the difficulties we have to contend with. Transportation is much wanted. Having, however, established a depot at Ship Point, it will relieve us much. The greatest want is experienced in the staff of the army. I think I will be able to do much in that respect for Major-General McClellan. The great trouble is to get rid of the useless baggage in the possession of regiments. I will again telegraph at 4 o'clock, when it is probable I will be able to give you important information. I received none of importance since the telegram sent you about 4 o'clock p. m.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, April 6, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL, *Fort Monroe:*

Please let me know fully the state of operations toward Yorktown, and whether it is necessary to send more than Sumner's corps, which is on the way down.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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FORT MONROE, *April* 6, 1862.
(Received 7th, 11 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Nothing of importance has occurred to-day at Yorktown. Baron Vegesack, my aide-de-camp, has just returned from the headquarters of General McClellan, but brings no news. It is thought that a strong demonstration will be made to-morrow against Yorktown. The baron reports that a large number of troops have arrived in last two or three days from Richmond. Magruder has 30,000 men. We are shipping forward troops and supplies to Ship Point; many are without rations.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington, April* 6, 1862.

General GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN, *Fort Monroe:*

Your instructions to McDowell did not appear to contemplate the removal of his force until some time this week. The enemy were reported to be still in force at Gordonsville and Fredericksburg, and threatening Winchester and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The force under Banks and Wadsworth was deemed by experienced military men inadequate to protect Winchester and the railroad, and was much less than had been fixed by your corps commanders as necessary to secure Washington. It was thought best, therefore, to detach either McDowell or Sumner, and as part of Sumner's corps was already with you, it was concluded to retain McDowell. Your advance on Yorktown gratified me very much, and I hope you will press forward and carry the enemy's works and soon be at Richmond.

The order organizing the new department will not in any degree affect your control over all the supplies, transportation, and material that has been left behind or that you may at any time require. The whole force and material of the Government will be as fully and speedily under your command as heretofore or as if the new department had not been created.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 6, 1862. (Received April 6, 3 p. m.)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

The order forming new departments, if rigidly enforced, deprives me of the power of ordering up wagons and troops absolutely necessary to enable me to advance to Richmond. I have by no means the transportation I must have to move my army even a few miles. I respectfully request I may not be placed in this position, but that my orders for wagon trains, ammunition, and other material that I have prepared and necessarily left behind, as well as Woodbury's brigade, may at once be complied with.

The enemy is strong in my front, and I have a most serious task before me, in the fulfillment of which I need all the aid the Government

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can give me. I again repeat the urgent request that General Franklin and his division may be restored to my command.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Two miles and a half from Yorktown, April 6, 1862—1.35 p. m.

General LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: Our reconnaissances thus far confirm the strength of the enemy's position. I am now satisfied that I was correct in my statement of his general position last night. Things are quiet to-day—but little firing; we remaining quiet in order not to draw attention to our reconnoitering parties. I see the secession colors as I write. It is clear that the enemy intend to fight us, and I think equally clear that we will be obliged to use our heavy artillery. The balloon has been of great service to-day. I am more and more satisfied that the services of the First Corps are necessary. I cannot dispense with Woodbury's Engineer Brigade.

The order in regard to new departments is received. I fear the movement it indicates of an advance on Richmond in two isolated columns is a mistake; it will probably enable the rebels to concentrate on one while he holds the other in check.

I will take Yorktown, but it may be a slow process.

Very respectfully, yours,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 6, 1862—8 p. m.

LORENZO THOMAS, *Adjutant-General:*

I examined works on enemy's left very carefully to-day. They are very strong; the approaches difficult; enemy in force, and the water batteries at York and Gloucester said to be much increased. Have not seen them myself. Have not yet received reports of engineer officers. I go to-morrow to examine our left. Sharp firing on our right for some time to-day while I was there. No harm done, although their shells burst handsomely. Am receiving supplies from Ship Point, repairing roads, getting up siege guns, &c. It seems now almost certain that we must use mortars and heavy guns freely before assaulting. The naval officers urge an attack on rear of Gloucester. I think they are right, but I am now too weak to attempt it unless new circumstances come to my knowledge. The affair will be protracted in consequence of the diminution of my forces.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH CORPS, WARWICK COURT-HOUSE, VA.,
April 6, 1862—5.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

I received your note of 5 p. m. yesterday. The enemy, I find, is very strongly posted; but I am not yet certain of the extent of his works

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or the number of his troops. He appears to be in good spirits, and his works are certainly very extensive. My line of front is now very long, and still I cannot find the upper end of his works. If I had more troops I would send them up and try to turn them. Wherever the enemy has shown himself I have shown a force to confront him, and I think he must suppose I have an immense army. Everything has been quiet through the night.

The roads are so bad that I have only been able to get forward but few guns. My forage is out, and I take care not to make any false moves to exhaust men or horses. I watch with small numbers, and only move masses for a sure purpose. I am not at all afraid of any attack of the enemy on me, but the badness of the roads and approaches may detain us here some time and the enemy may be strengthened.

I cannot find out anything about the roads from this point to Ship Point of sufficient certainty to depend on that depot for my forage and rations. I have written to Casey to send 200 pioneers to repair the roads from Newport News up, and to the commissary and quartermaster at Old Point to send up supplies from those places. We must have forage or our animals will give out, and our rations will be out to-morrow.

In great haste, I remain, your most obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Warwick Court-House, April 6, 1862—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General MARCY:

SIR: I received your dispatch of 10.40 p. m. of April 5 one hour ago. I have issued all necessary orders to obtain supplies from Poquosin Creek or Ship Point; also the orders for reconnaissance, exploration of the roads, &c. The guide you speak of did not come over. A train is just about to start to the supply depot. Inclosed are copies of this day's orders so far. This letter goes with a dispatch to Major-General McClellan.

Please say to the general that the enemy's works directly in front of General Smith's division cannot be carried by assault, and that I think some light 8-inch mortars can be used to advantage if we can get them up, with the ammunition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Army Corps.

UNITED STATES MILITARY TELEGRAPH.
(Received April 6, 1862, from near Yorktown.)

Commander JOHN RODGERS, U. S. N., *Washington:*

All my arrangements are completely changed by recent orders. I will telegraph you as soon as I know anything definite.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
Fort Monroe, April 7, 1862. (Received 7.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

In reply to your dispatch of the 6th, just received, I would remark that I am not sufficiently informed to answer it definitely. I directed the commanding officers, before the arrival of Major-General McClellan, to make a field return of their troops, but, belonging to the Army of the Potomac, they did not consider themselves bound to obey the order, and no returns were made. Consequently I have no means of ascertaining accurately the strength of the Army of the Potomac.

From a conversation with General McClellan I am induced to believe that with General Sumner's corps he must have over 100,000 men, with a large train of artillery. He informs me that the enemy has in and about Yorktown 30,000 men. If the enemy is no stronger I should think he had a sufficient force to overcome it. He complains, however, of taking from him 45,000 men under McDowell, which he says compels him to change his plan of operations. What these were he has not informed me.

In the course of the day I may be able to inform you whether more troops are needed. I would remark, however, that his rear and left flank are protected by my troops. This morning a regiment of infantry and a section of artillery occupies Young's Mill. (See the map I send you.)* I have ordered a regiment of infantry, Nims' battery (still here), and five companies of Colonel Harlan's cavalry to be ready to move to guard the left flank as soon as Brigadier-General Casey's division moves on to join the troops at Yorktown.

JOHN E. WOOL.
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *April 7, 1862.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have not heard from General McClellan since yesterday. Baron Vegesack, by whom I sent dispatches to the general, returned last evening at 8 o'clock. Informed me that a strong reconnaissance would be made to-day. Yesterday and the day before considerable firing took place between the contending parties, when some 12 or 15 were killed. How many were wounded was not stated. Some confusion has been caused for want of transportation. A great deal of property has been left at various places without a guard, and is being picked up by my troops. This is in consequence of the commanding officers of divisions and brigades neglecting to obtain the requisite transportation and staff officers neglecting to take care of their property. I find that the troops have an immense quantity of useless baggage.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

NEAR YORKTOWN, VA., *April* [7,?] 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding Department of Virginia:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your dispatch of the 6th* was duly received through Major Von Herrmann, whom I invited to remain here yesterday,

*Not found.

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that he might have some little opportunity of seeing the state of affairs, and give you an intelligent account. Our reconnaissance of yesterday shows the strength of the enemy's position.

The Warwick River grows worse the more you look at it. We are working away as hard as we can, but have terrible storms and horrid roads.

My impression now is that it will prove best to attack either Yorktown itself or the space between it and head of Warwick, although the works are heaviest there, but we would then get a better approach.

It is now pretty much reduced to a choice between one approach that is blocked by a marsh impassable under fire, and another that is passable, but completely swept by artillery. I think we will have to choose the latter, and reduce their artillery to silence.

I regret exceedingly that I have been deprived of the First Corps, and thus obliged to give up the movement we talked about—from the Severn upon the rear of Gloucester. But I have lost about 50,000 men since I commenced this operation, and do not feel strong enough to detach from what I now have, for when all my people are up I shall not have more than, say, 68,000 for duty.

General Joe Johnston has arrived in Yorktown, so prisoners say, with heavy re-enforcements. All the troops of Manassas are coming in, and they say that they intend fighting the first battle here.

I wish the Merrimac would come out, so that we could get our gunboats up the James River through all the local force of large vessels at Yorktown. I doubt whether the Merrimac will come out to fight.

In haste, I am, my dear general, your anxious and obliged friend,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS, *near Yorktown, April 7, 1862.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

I propose to issue the following order if it meets your approval:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Near Yorktown, April 7, 1862.*

This army having advanced into Southeastern Virginia for the purpose of compelling submission to the laws of the United States, and extensive military operations therein being found necessary for the suppression of the existing rebellion, the general commanding deems it absolutely necessary, for the protection of the inhabitants and their property and the good order of the army, to establish that unwritten code of law which civilization has provided for the exigencies of a condition of war, however produced. It is therefore ordered—

First. That martial law be, and the same is hereby, declared to exist in and about all places occupied by the forces of the army for any and every military purpose, and in and about all its moving columns and detachments, of whatever kind.

Second. That all acts committed where martial law is thus declared to exist, either by officers, soldiers, or other persons connected with this army, or by inhabitants or other persons, which are commonly recognized as crimes against society, or which may be done in contravention of the established rules of war, shall be punishable by a course of military commission.

Third. Among the acts that are made punishable are murder, rape, malicious personal injuries, arson, robberies, theft, and wanton trespass, including also all attempts to perpetrate such acts; provided, however, that no cause already cognizable by court-martial shall be tried by military commission.

Fourth. Military commissions under this order shall be appointed, governed, and conducted, their proceedings reviewed, and their sentences executed as nearly as practicable in accordance with courts-martial; provided that all punishments under military commission shall be of the description generally affixed throughout the United States to similar offenses.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Warwick Court-House, Va., April 8, 1862.

Brigadier-General MARCY, *Chief of Staff:*

SIR: Nothing has occurred during the night worthy of note. General Peck was very busy and brought me valuable information. One of his men swam across to an island, then crossed the island down near James River, and found himself within a hundred yards of Mulberry Island, where he saw the enemy's pickets. He also saw a camp on the spit between Warwick and James Rivers.

For the information of Major-General McClellan I send a copy of my note to General Smith to withdraw his masses from the enemy's shot and shell. Under that order and the remarks of General McClellan General Smith has withdrawn his division some 3 miles away to the right, with the exception of Davidson's brigade, which I fortunately intercepted before it moved. General Smith's orders to Davidson required the withdrawal of all his pickets from the front occupied by Smith's division yesterday. It appears, therefore, that General Smith has entirely mistaken his orders, unless he received orders from General McClellan which I did not hear, General McClellan having only, as I understood him, reiterated my orders that General Smith should withdraw his men not on duty as outguards, &c., to camps far enough to the rear and right to be out of the range of the enemy's shot and shells. I consider all safe, but I have not yet learned the exact position of Smith with his two brigades.

I am doing everything possible to get up supplies, and I have deemed it prudent to send a train to Newport News for small rations, having been informed by Captain Taylor that he has shipped them to that point.

I have directed General Casey to send forward a brigade to Young's Mill, to which point the roads are practicable, as soon as he gets transportation. I am afraid just now to bring more troops here, for fear they will starve until the roads are improved.

Professor Lowe asks me for six wagons to bring up his balloon. I cannot furnish one until I get up forage and provisions.

If the front occupied by Smith yesterday is assailed, Graham and Davidson have two brigades and a battery or two to oppose him. I do not fear that the enemy will cross in force anywhere, but he is more likely to assail my right if he would do much damage.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Army Corps.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., April 8, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Headquarters, near Yorktown:

Your two telegrams of the 7th instant have just been received—10 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, 8th April.

Your proclamation is approved, and I will send by mail the proceedings of a military commission for similar offenses lately in Missouri, which are a good form of procedure.

Your telegram respecting military operations was received at the same time and will be submitted early in the morning for the consideration of the President. We have official information, this moment

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received from General Halleck, confirming the capture of a great number of prisoners and immense quantity of military stores and artillery at Island No. 10, and also of a brilliant victory by General Grant and Buell's advance corps over Beauregard at Pittsburg. We hope even greater results from your operations, and are longing to send the shout of victory from the Chesapeake to the Mississippi.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

NEAR YORKTOWN, *April* 8, 1862.

Flag-Officer L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH:

MY DEAR SIR: Your kind letter received. From the information received thus far I am inclined to think that the masked battery on the river bank below Yorktown is not in existence, but that the gun fired upon Missroon was from the advanced bastion of the place itself.

Porter thinks that he has found a place from which we can enfilade their water batteries. I go there in a few minutes to look at it. Should it prove to be so, we can enable the gunboats to take an effective part in the contest.

The weather is infamous; has been raining hard for the last fourteen hours and still continues. The roads are horrid, and we have the devil's own time about supplies.

I have made strong representations as to the withdrawal of the First Corps, which has forced me to abandon the Severn movement, and hope that the President may be induced to change his order.

Persons say that Joe Johnston has assumed command; that heavy re-enforcements are arriving, and that they intend to fight the great battle here. I am probably weaker than they now are or soon will be, but I will whip them in spite of the fact [that] 50,000 men have been withdrawn from my command since I commenced the operation. This reduction of force necessitates more caution on my part.

The position of the enemy is considered strong, but we are learning more of it every hour. Our men behave splendidly; brave and patient as men can be.

I will communicate with Missroon this morning and write you fully to-night.

In great haste, sincerely, your friend,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

Porter's camp is just shelling range; his pickets and sharpshooters are near enough to pick off their cannoneers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Yorktown, April 8, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I send herewith copies of letters received by me from Flag-Officer Goldsborough and Captain Missroon in regard to defenses of Yorktown and Gloucester. The Severn movement was abandoned in consequence of the sudden decrease of my force. I had arranged

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the matter with the flag-officer before I was informed of the decrease of my army.

The proposed landing at the Sand Box was obviated by the fact that my left turned the enemy's line at Howard's Bridge.

With the request that the inclosed papers may be laid before the Secretary and the President,

I am, respectfully, yours,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

U. S. STEAMER MINNESOTA,
Hampton Roads, Sunday, April 6, 1862—3.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Just this moment received your dispatch of last night. The Mystic is not here, nor do I expect her for some time to come. Until the guns on Gloucester Point be turned by the movement up the Severn it will be wholly impracticable, in my judgment, for the small naval force I can now detail to assist you to attack the forts at Yorktown and Gloucester with any prospect of success, unless, forsooth, it be practicable to run past those forts at night and so get on the inside of them and assail them in flank. Of this Missroon may judge. Tell him what I say. You know my position here. I dare not leave the Merrimac and consorts unguarded. Were she out of the way everything I have here should be at work in your behalf; but as things stand you must not count upon my sending any more vessels to aid your operations than those I mentioned to you. Some of them are now at and about York River, under Missroon, and the other three I hold here to move with your division up the Severn if you still intend to send over there, and, if you do not, I shall send them off to Missroon on being informed of the fact by you.

I wish it had been in your power to carry out the plan of landing at the Sand Box, up the Severn, and moving from Fort Monroe and about Newport News simultaneously. Will you not still have serious difficulty in your way in marching a force from Shipping Point to Yorktown?

The moment you tell me of your intention not to carry out the Severn movement I shall dispatch the three vessels now here for York River service to Missroon, but until I do hear from you on the subject I shall keep them on hand ready for a spring at a moment's notice.

Write me or telegraph as often as you can. I feel an intense interest in you and your operations.

In great haste, yours, most truly and faithfully,

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

WACHUSETT, *April* 5, 1862—11.45 a. m.

General GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I received your note of 4th last evening, proposing to me to shell at long range to-day noon. I was prepared to do so with three gunboats to-day. At daylight this morning we had the first clear view, which disclosed vast additions to the fortifications

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of which I had the plans—so vast that these boats would be destroyed in twenty minutes.

I have to-day discovered the position of the masked battery of four 10-inch guns, to which have been added extensive works, and some more guns have been reported. I am now trying to draw its fire by advancing and firing at long ranges; so far without effect.

I have this moment received your note of yesterday of 11 p. m. It came too late for me to get to you to-day. I wish I could; but, my dear sir, I am without *officers*. I have *not one* with whom I dare to leave this vessel. None have any experience whatever.

I saw your troops advancing along Wormley's Creek toward the masked battery of four 10-inch guns. Until these are taken I cannot advance with this range. When these are taken they can be turned on the water battery which lies nearest to us, and which has lately been made more extensive also, as I see by the new earth.

When you take the Wormley's Creek we can have uninterrupted communication at any and all times. The view is good from where I am. Your signal officer did not come on board, and would be very serviceable if here.

I am, with the commanders of the two vessels with me, anxious to assist you; but you see the cost of its attempt in the existing state of things. Depend on it, all the fortifications have been largely increased.

Our want of officers is a hard trial, and my presence is a necessity to my vessel; yet if you still wish it at any time that I should join you I will do so.

Your views in writing will be carried out faithfully, if possible, or by signal. If you want me to take the boats under fire say so, and it shall be done at once, no matter at what cost.

I am writing this on deck while firing.

Yours, very truly,

J. S. MISSROON.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

SUNDAY, *April* 6, 1862—4 p. m.

General GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have received your favor of this date by Colonel Key and hasten to say that I have already written you via Shipping Point in reply, giving my reasons for not having joined you. The time you proposed to proceed with me had elapsed, and particularly the difficulties of my leaving my vessel, owing to the want of officers of experience to take care of her.

I have explained in my note of to-day, and have repeated to Colonel Key, the greatly increased strength of the fortifications, as seen from this position. The forts at Gloucester are very formidable indeed, and the water batteries of Yorktown have evidently been increased in dimensions within a few days, as indicated by the new earth.

As I pointed out to you in our interview, the works to be most apprehended (though they all are too formidable for our vessels or three or four times their numbers and class) are the guns in mask, about one-fourth to one-half of a mile this side of Yorktown, which position I pointed out to Colonel Key.

The enemy are still on Gloucester Point; how strong I cannot say. So long as he holds that formidable work (or indeed upper and lower work) we surely cannot command the York River. All the gunboats of the Navy would fail to take it, but would be destroyed in the attempt;

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yet I will not hesitate to try the experiment, if required to do so, with the force, however inadequate.

I have explained to Colonel Key that if you turn the masked works which I fired on to-day and receive its fire in return, the guns would command the next water battery, which is about the fifth of a mile from it, toward Yorktown, as it appears from this ship.

With those two batteries carried, this force might approach near enough to shell Yorktown at long range, but nothing more. These vessels of this class are not calculated for closer or heavier work.

As I could not go in time to reach you to-day, as requested, I sent, after dispatching my letter to you, the second in rank, Lieutenant-Commanding Clitz, to confer with you, and now with Colonel Key I proceed to Wormley's Creek to meet you or General Heintzelman.

Very truly, yours,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commanding.

NEAR YORKTOWN, *April* 8, 1862—10.30 p. m.
(Received April 10, 1862—2 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Weather terrible. Raining heavily last twenty-eight hours. Roads and camps in awful condition. Very little firing to-day. Reconnaissance being continued under disadvantageous circumstances. General Sumner has arrived. Most of Richardson's division at Ship Point. I cannot move it from there in present state of roads until I get more wagons. I need more force to make the attack on Gloucester.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 113.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Yorktown, Va., April 8, 1862.

The following instructions are published for the guidance of this army, and will be strictly observed and enforced:

I. The order of march and the dispositions for the same will be communicated at the proper time to the commanders immediately concerned, who will be held responsible for their prompt execution.

II. While on the route, generals commanding divisions and brigades will be careful that the proper distances are observed throughout their respective columns, moving occasionally along the line or sending a staff officer to correct irregularities. Field officers of regiments will use the same means to preserve order in their commands. All unnecessary discharge of fire-arms is strictly prohibited and will be severely punished. The muskets of the troops, excepting those composing the advance and rear guards and flankers, will not be capped, unless special orders be given.

III. Halts, not exceeding ten minutes each, will be made every hour of the march and at midday, one from thirty minutes to an hour in length. The signal will be sounded from the head of the column and repeated down the whole line. Regiments will halt on the ground where they are when the signal sounds. When it is desired that the whole column shall close up regularly, the command will be given to the leading regiment and the word passed to the rear. During all halts the advance and rear guards, as well as the flankers, will remain

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in their respective positions (General Orders, 69, Headquarters Army of the Potomac, February 25, 1862), and exercise the utmost vigilance to guard against surprise.

IV. All commanding officers are held responsible that no straggling takes place in their respective commands. No one will be allowed to leave the ranks, except during a halt, unless in case of sickness. Should a soldier be taken sick, he will be sent to the rear in charge of a non-commissioned officer and reported to the medical officer with the ambulance train, who will act as the case requires.

V. The ambulance and baggage train of each brigade will ordinarily follow immediately in rear of its brigade, under the direction of the brigade quartermaster, assisted by the quartermasters of the respective regiments; all of whom will remain constantly with the trains and preserve the strictest order and discipline. Supply trains will, as a general rule, follow the baggage trains of the troops for whom the supplies are intended. Should a team be delayed by accident on the march, it will be drawn to one side of the road, while those in its rear will close up the interval. Whenever trains or any number of wagons halt from any cause, they will, as far as possible, be drawn to one side of the road, so as to admit of the free passage of troops, artillery, and other trains that may be ordered to the front.

VI. The passage of the defiles or obstacles will be made in close order, the "route step" being resumed by each regiment after its last company has passed. Regiments in rear will close in mass on head of column while those in front are passing the defile or obstacle.

VII. The pioneers of each brigade, with their tools and implements, will march in front of their respective brigades, under direction of an engineer officer. The roads will be repaired, and, whenever practicable, all obstacles to the easy passage of troops and trains will be removed.

VIII. "To the color," sounded on the march, will be the signal to prepare for action. At this call the trains will draw, as far as possible, to one side of the road and halt; the ambulances will be prepared for service; the men will close their ranks without further orders, and preserve perfect silence.

IX. All commands and signals must be passed from front to rear of the column with the utmost promptness and celerity.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 114. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Yorktown, Va., April* 8, 1862.

The unsoldierlike practice, which for a few days past has prevailed in some of the regiments of this army, of firing away cartridges while upon the march and in camp, without any object save the wanton destruction of Government property which has at great expense and care been furnished for the purpose of combating the enemies of our country, has been brought to the notice of the general commanding, who learns with deep regret that one or more soldiers have been killed and several wounded by this culpable violation of orders.

The order is now reiterated that hereafter all commanders of army corps, divisions, brigades, regiments, and companies give their especial and unremitting attention to the immediate suppression of this practice

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in future, and they will be required to bring to a summary punishment every officer or soldier who violates this order.

To avoid the accidental discharge of fire-arms caps will not be allowed upon the cones until they are required for immediate use against the enemy, and as soon as the occasion no longer exists they will be removed and placed in their cap boxes.

Company inspections will be made every evening, when the arms and cartridge boxes of every man will be examined by the company commanders, and if any caps are found upon the cones or if the proper number of cartridges are not in the boxes the delinquents will be placed in confinement and punished.

All commanders are expected to enforce the requirements of this order, and they will be held responsible that its provisions are faithfully complied with.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 9, 1862—9 p. m.

LORENZO THOMAS, *Adjutant-General:*

Weather still execrable; country covered with water; roads terrible. It is with the utmost difficulty that I can supply the troops. We are doing an immense deal of work on the roads. Cannot land siege train until the wind moderates. Reconnaissances being pushed and points of attack pretty well determined. Rebels have thrown 10 and 12 inch shells yesterday and to-day without effect. I have now placed all the troops in bivouac just out of shell range, holding all our advanced positions with strong detachments well sheltered. I shall not lose an hour in placing our heavy guns in batteries, and will assault at the earliest practicable moment. The feeling of the troops is excellent.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 9, 1862.

General E. D. KEYES,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In answer to your communication of yesterday I am directed to say that there was a slight misunderstanding regarding the disposition he desired to be made of your corps. He wished General Smith's division to be withdrawn somewhat to the rear and right, so as to occupy a position along in rear of the Yorktown and Warwick Court-House road, extending as far to the right as the Cross-Roads or Four Corners, and he desires General Davidson's brigade also brought back upon the same line, leaving sufficient picket guards to watch the enemy closely and to protect the main body from a surprise.

General Smith now occupies the Yorktown road beyond the Four Corners, but the general wishes him to remain there until he can (probably to-morrow) send a brigade from Sedgwick's division to fill the gap.

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He also wishes you to draw back your other divisions upon the same line, so as to connect with General Smith's left and Warwick Court-House, placing pickets upon the different small roads running toward our front and upon such other localities as you may think necessary for the security of your position; also watching closely the country below you to the mouth of Warwick River.

The general believes that under existing circumstances this will be the best disposition of your corps, as it will enable you to observe the enemy and cover your masses. It will be necessary for you until further orders to supply your corps with forage and provisions from Ship Point with your own teams.

Please have the roads put in as good condition as practicable.

I would suggest that whenever it can be done without loss of time you direct your teams to remain overnight at Ship Point, giving them a good feed of hay and grain there. This will economize transportation and will invigorate the animals for returning.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. FOURTH CORPS, WARWICK COURT-HOUSE,
April 9, 1862—3 p. m.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY, *Chief of Staff:*

SIR: I have this moment, on my return from a reconnaissance, received your dispatch of this morning. The line pointed out for Smith's division corresponds entirely with my views, and is nearly the same as that to which I supposed he would withdraw, under my order of 8 a. m. of the 7th instant, although I had not had time to examine my whole front. I will direct General Smith to look out for proper camps for his brigades, so as to move as soon as one of Sedgwick's brigades appears in his vicinity. Davidson's brigade was withdrawn a mile to the rear and considerably to the right after General McClellan was here. He can remain there until Smith establishes his other two brigades, and he will not probably find it necessary to move much to carry out your orders.

In regard to Couch's division, it may be found necessary to draw back Graham's brigade to near the Court-House and to extend Briggs' and Peck's brigades considerably more to the left and rear than they were when General McClellan reconnoitered the left. My reconnaissance this morning took me back to more than half way to Young's Mill, and I did not reach the mouth of Warwick River by more than a mile. I went quite down to the shore, and found a good hard landing and the remains of an old wharf. This morning a rebel gunboat came up into the mouth of Warwick River, fired a shell, and turned back.

I directed my pickets to connect with those thrown out from Young's Mill. They did so connect last night. I more apprehend a fight with the enemy on my left than at any other point, and must make my dispositions accordingly.

I have directed a reconnaissance of the road to Ship Point, and shall put on a working party as soon as the best route can be ascertained.

Owing to assiduous friendly exertions of that most excellent officer Brigadier-General Mansfield, I have been able to procure forage and

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provisions from Newport News when they could not be had from Ship Point, which prevented serious suffering among my men and the probable loss of many animals. I had before the receipt of your note directed that animals should be fed well at the depots.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps, Army Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 10, 1862. (Received 6 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The reconnaissance to-day proves that it is necessary to invest and attack Gloucester Point. Give me Franklin and McCall's divisions, under command of Franklin and I will at once undertake it. If circumstances of which I am not aware make it impossible for you to send me two divisions to carry out this final plan of campaign I will run the risk and hold myself responsible for the results if you will give me Franklin's division. If you still confide in my judgment I entreat that you will grant this request. The fate of our cause depends upon it. Although willing under the pressure of necessity to carry this through with Franklin alone, I wish it to be distinctly understood that I think two divisions necessary. Franklin and his division are indispensable to me. General Barnard concurs in this view. I have determined upon the point of attack, and am at this moment engaged in fixing the positions of the batteries.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Yorktown, April 10, 1862—9.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: It has not rained to-day since quite early in the morning, and is now clear. The ground is already beginning to dry up, and we shall have better roads to-morrow. Additional and more suitable landing points have been found for supplies, siege material, &c.; some of them on much better roads than any we have heretofore used.

I obtained to-day an excellent view of the water defenses of Yorktown and Gloucester; they are very strong. I saw a number of schooners; some landing men. Captain Missroon (commanding gunboats) informs me that re-enforcements are constantly arriving in that manner.

I have not yet heard the result of to-day's reconnaissances on the left. I directed the enemy's pickets near Lee's Mill to be driven across the stream, to enable the engineers to make a close examination.

I have telegraphed Flag-Officer Goldsborough, asking him to let me have the Naugatuck, in order that she may annoy the enemy's wharves and prevent their disembarking troops by daylight. The enemy is strengthening himself and will evidently make a desperate resistance. Gloucester is strongly fortified on the land side.

Assistant Secretary Fox has promised to let me have the Mystic. I

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propose to have her pass the batteries at night and destroy the enemy's vessels and communication on the York River. She can probably take their water batteries in reverse and greatly facilitate our operations. The troops are in the best spirits; not much firing to-day.

I would be glad to have prepared reserve supplies of shells, &c., for the 4½-inch rifle guns, 8 and 10 inch mortars, and for some 13-inch mortars that Secretary Fox has been kind enough to loan me.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEAR YORKTOWN, *April* 10, 1862.
(Received April 11, 1862—5.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Nothing of interest to-day. Weather and roads a little better. Shall make good progress in landing heavy guns and supplies to-morrow. Hooker's division commenced arriving. Examined water defenses. Enemy strengthening works and receiving re-enforcements. Gloucester well fortified on land side.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

CAMP NEAR YORKTOWN,
April 10, 1862—8.10 p. m.

Flag-Officer L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Commanding Squadron, Hampton Roads:

I have had a good view to-day of the river defenses of Yorktown and Gloucester. If you can spare her please send the Naugatuck and any other small vessel, with an 80 or 100-pounder rifle. With such guns we can probably prevent their landing men and supplies from York River in daylight and can annoy them much at night. If the Mystic can run the batteries she can break up all their communication by York River and disturb them terribly, even if she cannot drive them out of the water batteries by a reverse fire.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Yorktown, April 10, 1862—10 p. m.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH, *Hampton Roads:*

Franklin's division is ordered to join me. It will be some three or four days. Weather good; roads improving.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Yorktown, April 10, 1862—10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. W. B. FRANKLIN,
Manassas or Alexandria:

Bring with your division your wagons, ambulances, animals, tents,

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tools, &c. Push your division, and join me at once in my camp to arrange movements. I congratulate myself upon your new orders.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *April* 11, 1862—11 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Merrimac came out and planted herself between Newport News and Sewell's Point, with the Yorktown and Jamestown and several gunboats and tugs. The tugs came down as far as Bates' Dock, and carried off three small vessels, empty. Driving cattle across Hampton Bridge this morning it was broken down and I could not cross; otherwise I would have sent my artillery to protect them.

Brigadier-General Casey's division was quite near, within a mile. I believe it is the intention to strengthen the rebels opposite the Warwick Court-House. Brigadier-General Keyes' corps is opposite the rebels. I have telegraphed McClellan that the Yorktown and Jamestown were crowded with troops opposite to General Keyes. I have a battery at Newport News, but Brigadier-General Mansfield says for the want of horses it is of no use. Everything we had has been put in requisition to aid the Army of the Potomac; consequently we are somewhat in a crippled condition. The roads are almost impassable.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
April 11, 1862—4 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Merrimac, Jamestown, Yorktown, and several gunboats and tugs appeared between Newport News and Sewell's Point. The only damage done us is the capture of three small vessels, one empty, one loaded with hay, and the other loaded, it is said, with coal. These vessels were captured opposite Brigadier-General Casey's division with small guns of 3-inch caliber, and some 200 feet from shore, and although the shore was lined by soldiers no effort was made to prevent the capture.* Why it was so is more than I can conjecture. The general belongs to the Army of the Potomac, and does not consider himself under my orders, although, since the capture of the vessels, he has offered his and the services of his division if I should need them. His division is detained for want of transportation. He proposes to march on Sunday or Monday to join the Army of the Potomac. We have a fine day, and probably will have a fine moonlight night, when it is conjectured by some that the Merrimac and her companions, the Jamestown and Yorktown, with their gunboats, may attempt to pass out of the Roads. I will detain the Baltimore boat until to-morrow.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Brigadier-General.

* But see Casey to Wool and Wool to Casey, same date; and Casey to Stanton and Wool to Stanton, April 13, pp. 89, 95, 96.

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FORT MONROE, VA.,
April 11, 1862—5 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have not failed to keep you advised of what is passing in Hampton Roads. Among other conjectures it is thought the Merrimac intends to make her way to Yorktown to relieve the rebels of our gunboats, and to drive us from Ship Point, where he had his depot of supplies. I will keep you advised of all movements, if it is possible. The flag-officer has at last furnished us with a gunboat to keep the enemy's boats from entering Hampton Creek.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
April 11, 1862—5. p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Merrimac came down toward the Monitor and Stevens. The latter fired four or five rounds and the Merrimac one round, when she, with her consorts, returned to Craney Island. Thus ends the day. What the night may bring forth I am unable to say.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CASEY'S DIVISION,
Near Newport News, Va., April 11, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL:

GENERAL: I have just been shown a telegram which you sent to General Mansfield to-day with regard to the taking of some transports by the Jamestown. In it you have cast a reflection on me by saying the troops of General Casey were near and many of them on the beach opposite at the time they were captured.

From the statement of [an] eye-witness of the capture I learn that the vessels captured were at least from 5 to 6 miles from my encampment. It is to be regretted that you had not informed yourself of the true position of my troops before making any statement about them. The false idea which your telegram conveys I trust you will correct at once. The first intimation of the appearance of the Merrimac I received from yourself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SILAS CASEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
Fort Monroe, Va., April 11, 1862.

Brig. Gen. SILAS CASEY:

GENERAL: I am very happy to be set right in relation to your command. I presume the troops said to be on the beach at the time the

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three vessels were captured must be some artillery and Ninth [N. Y.] Cavalry. Twenty-nine of these were sent here as deserters and sent to Fort Wool. I know nothing of your position, except report from several officers that your division was near Bates' Dock. It will afford me pleasure to correct any impression unfavorable to yourself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Scott, April 11, 1862—11.20 p. m.

Commander JOHN RODGERS, U. S. N., *Washington, D. C.:*

Will you be kind enough to attend to the embarkation of General Franklin's division, and arrange matters so that it can all move together. After making arrangements for the movement I will be glad to see you here, and in time for you to join the division before it disembarks. I am particularly anxious that you should superintend the disembarkation. It will disembark on the Severn River.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Yorktown, April 11, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I reached these headquarters at 7 o'clock this evening, having had an accident to the steamer on the way from Fort Monroe to Ship Point, and I was five hours on horseback. The roads being almost impassable, and so entirely occupied with army, I frequently had to leave the road and take to the woods. The severe storm at Fort Monroe prevented transports from leaving for several days. The facilities for landing at Ship Point are very poor, and for several days it must have been next to impossible to move artillery over such roads. I learn that 12,000 men are engaged in repairing and building new roads. The difficulties of transportation have been so great that some of the cavalry horses had to be sent back, to keep them from starving.

I will report my observations of army movements to-morrow, but I see an earnest determination to lose no time in attacking the enemy combined.

JOHN TUCKER,
Assistant Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, April 11, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Headquarters near Yorktown:

Franklin's division is marching to Alexandria to embark. McCall's will be sent if the safety of this city will permit. Inform me where you want Franklin to land. He will embark to-morrow and as quickly as possible.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., April 11, 1862—8.45 p. m.

Lieutenant FERGUSON,
Quartermaster, Alexandria:

Lose no time in having transportation ready to take Franklin's division to Old Point. Direct the boats to be coaled to-night, if it has not already been done.

Report to me immediately the names of the transports that are ready and how many men they can take. I am waiting your answer at the Department.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

ALEXANDRIA, *April* 11, 1862.
(Received 9.15 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

There are but two transports here that can be used for troops, and they are both in perfect readiness; their names are the Constitution and Ocean Queen; they can carry 7,000 men. Other transports will probably arrive to-morrow.

C. B. FERGUSON,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Yorktown, April 11, 1862—10 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Weather good; work on roads progressing. Nothing is left undone to enable us to attack with least possible delay. Reconnaissances pushed boldly and satisfactorily to-day. Several skirmishes to-day, in which we have had a few wounded—none killed. In every case drove back the enemy with considerable loss on his side. Our men show the utmost spirit in all these affairs, and have been uniformly successful. I am delighted with Franklin's orders, and beg to thank you. I shall make the movement I have alluded to as soon as possible after he arrives. There shall not be a moment's unnecessary delay in any of the operations here.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 12, 1862—11.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Please have McCallum engage a first-rate wharf-builder to come down at once with pile-drivers and workmen and material. I will send details in a few hours. My idea is to have a superintendent, who shall have the general control of the work, and that he should have several competent master-workmen under him.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Yorktown, April 12, 1862—12 m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch received. I thank you most sincerely for the re-enforcements sent to me. Franklin will attack on the other side. The moment I hear from him I will state point of rendezvous. I am confident as to results now.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

APRIL 12, 1862.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH, *Hampton Roads:*

I shall be able to make our second movement. Where shall Franklin's vessels rendezvous? What of the Naugatuck; can I have her? We are pretty quiet here, but working hard.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WACHUSETT, *April* 12, 1862—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I am happy to learn of General Franklin's destination for the point of such great importance. I communicated in reply a few minutes since that 17 feet would cross all the outside shoals and that 15 feet could be carried 2 miles up from the mouth of the Severn. No soundings are given but to just within its mouth, where are 3¼ fathoms. All I say of depth within the mouth is derived from pilots, who agree as to the above statement.

The Octorora (gunboat) was detailed for that service. I trust she may still be at Hampton Roads; she had a 9-inch shell gun, an 80-pounder rifle, and four 24-pounder howitzers. It is most important that Lieutenant Phelps, of the Corwin, should control that movement of vessels, as he is best informed, and whose first lieutenant has been in the river, landed there, and walked thence to the Point.

I apprehend that the enemy have fortified that entrance very strongly. I would suggest that you telegraph to the flag-officer immediately, so as to secure the services of the Octorora, which draws but 6 feet water, and those of Lieutenant-Commander Phelps, of the Corwin; both important to success.

Very truly,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commander.

APRIL 12, 1862.—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I know of no place so good for assembling the division as just off Poquosin Flats, in from 4 to 6 fathoms water. From that point they would have to run about 15 miles, which the steamers would do in two hours, so as to reach the mouth of the Severn River by or before daylight.

The assembling off that point would not indicate positively to the

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enemy (off Poquosin, I mean) anything more than what they know now, viz, that we have made a depot there.

I fear they have now fortified the mouth of the river, and have manned them, evening before last, with the troops that crossed over from Yorktown in our view, as I can't see what they have done with them.

Might not a landing be made at night on Gloucester on this side if your information gives assurance of strong works on the Severn?

Please look at York River chart 3½ miles below Gloucester Point and 5 miles also.

Yours, very truly,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commander.

The point I would first indicate is plainly seen from our ship. Will you not come on board and see it?—the first sand beach just beyond the meadow-land. Gunboats could cover landing 600 to 800 yards off. No battery in view. A spot where oyster boats used to make landings.

A feint might be made at the Severn to keep troops there if fortified or to land if not fortified.

Signal for a boat to land at Shields' house as the best point for embarking.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 115. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., Ap'l* 12, 1862.

I. The present camp of these headquarters, and of all the troops in front of Yorktown, will be known as Camp Winfield Scott.

II. Special instances of good conduct and gallantry on the part of officers or troops will be reported without delay, through the intermediate commanders, to these headquarters. Orders of commendation are to be issued at these headquarters only.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 116. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., Ap'l* 12, 1862.

I. There will be established in the vicinity of General Headquarters a general depot for prisoners, under the charge of the provost-marshal-general and his staff officers.

II. In each division there will be a sub-depot, under control of the division provost-marshal, whose guard will consist of one company of infantry and one company of cavalry.

III. The provost-marshals of divisions are hereby directed to patrol from time to time during the day and the early part of the night the encampments of the division to which they belong, and will arrest and confine any soldiers found within these encampments belonging to other divisions unless they have the requisite passes from their division commanders. Any soldiers thus found with passes after taps, except such as are specially authorized by their division commanders—which authority will be written on the pass—will be dealt with in like manner.

They will also pay particular attention to those unauthorized persons

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who may come within their lines for the sale of contraband goods; and if any such be found, will send them under charge of a guard to the provost-marshal-general's office, with a written report of the circumstances of the arrest and of the crime with which they are charged.

IV. The provost-marshals of divisions will submit daily to the provost-marshal-general, unless otherwise directed by him, consolidated morning reports of the forces under their command, together with a list of prisoners, showing the offenses for which they were committed, the letter of the company, the number of the regiment, the number of the brigade, and the name of the division to which they belong. It will also show the date of confinement and by whom confined, the list of prisoners of war and state being kept separately from that of offenders belonging to the army. They will specify on the morning reports the number and strength of the patrols from time to time sent out.

When the army is in position these reports will be sent in by 12 m., but when on the march they will be sent in at the earliest practicable moment after arriving in camp.

A guard, in charge of an officer, accompanying the morning report, will be sent in to the headquarters of the provost-marshal-general, to escort such prisoners as do not belong to the division and take back with it such prisoners as may belong to the division from which it came.

V. The foregoing will apply to the division of reserve cavalry, the brigade of regular infantry, and the reserve artillery, with this exception, that the commanders thereof will designate the strength of the force assigned to the provost-marshal from their own command.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., April 13, 1862.

Major-General BANKS:

Deserters from Yorktown to Fort Monroe and contrabands that have come into McDowell's camp agree in the statement that the enemy's force has left the Rappahannock for Yorktown.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *April* 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Headquarters near Yorktown:

General Franklin has started for Fort Monroe, via Baltimore, this afternoon. Nothing new. Beauregard is reported to be dead, but this comes from General Banks as a report, and is not relied on.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 13, 1862—9 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Dispatch received. Arrangement proposed for Franklin would assist me much. Our work progressing well. We shall soon be at them, and

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I am sure of the result. They are working hard on the Gloucester side, and the Navy cannot reach them.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

U. S. STEAMER WACHUSETT,
York River, April 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your proposal to throw shells into the enemy's works at Gloucester last night was about to be attempted at 11 p. m. (although I could not believe that it would injure the works he has been erecting), when the movement of the vessels was immediately signaled by their pickets, and I was unwilling to carry three vessels of this light description under such a destructive fire as the enemy was prepared to concentrate from fifty cannon upon them.

The wind was directly upon their works, which would have driven the vessels upon Yorktown had any accident occurred to their machinery.

The works of the enemy are entirely too formidable, both in structure and cannon, to warrant an attack by three such light vessels as these; and I should be very unwilling to attack them, unless it be to a limited extent simultaneously with your assault.

The enemy's pickets are stationed all along the whole extent of Gloucester and are sleepless.

Yours, very respectfully,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS CASEY'S DIVISION,
Near Newport News, April 13, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have just seen in the Herald a telegraphic dispatch from General J. E. Wool to yourself, at the latter paragraph of which I was much surprised. It is this:

Three vessels were captured opposite Brigadier-General Casey's division with small guns of 3-inch caliber and some 200 feet from shore.

This is a false statement. My camp is between 5 and 6 miles from the place of capture and about 2 miles from the beach.

I never knew that the Merrimac was out until I was informed by General Wool by telegraph.

From a telegraph which I received from General Wool, through General Mansfield, I was led to suppose that General Wool labored under a mistake with regard to the place of my encampment. I addressed him the inclosed communication, marked A*, and received in reply, marked B*. I have also inclosed a communication from Colonel Bailey, my chief of artillery, marked C.

There may have been particular reasons for those whose business it was to act in not preventing the capture; but it is not surprising that those who were responsible should wish to shift upon the shoulders of others somewhat of the odium that attaches to it.

I trust that justice will be done me in this matter, and that the truth will have as wide a circulation as the falsehood.

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* See p. 89.

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This will be handed you by Dr. Warren, medical director of my division, who is fully informed of the particulars of the case, and who will communicate to you the facts. His statements you can rely on as correct.

I am, sir, with respect, your obedient servant,

SILAS CASEY,

Brigadier-General, Comdg. Third Division, Fourth Army Corps.

[Inclosure C.]

HDQRS. DIVISION OF ARTILLERY (CASEY'S DIVISION),
April 13, 1862.

Capt. HENRY W. SMITH,

Asst. Adjt. Gen., Headquarters Casey's Division:

CAPTAIN: I have been requested by the general commanding the division to make a written statement of the facts concerning the capture of three schooners by the rebel steamer Jamestown on the 11th instant. I have the honor, therefore, to submit the following official report:

On the morning of the 11th instant I was attracted to the beach by the discharge of heavy guns. I found the rebel steamer Merrimac, accompanied by six gunboats, near the opposite shore, between Sewell's Point and the mouth of the Elizabeth River. They were then directly opposite the encampment of General Casey's division, and at least 3 miles from our own shore.

Soon after I arrived the Jamestown steamed down rapidly, hugging their own shore for a considerable distance, and then bore directly upon the three schooners, which were apparently anchored off Hampton. The course of the Jamestown was such as to increase her distance from General Casey's encampment. If there was any point between this and Fort Monroe where field guns could have been brought to bear upon her it must have been near and above the village of Hampton, where I understand there were two or more batteries of field artillery subject to the orders of General Wool.

My opinion at the time was (and still is) that nothing but heavy guns could have reached her, even from the place just mentioned; and I am positive that no rebel gunboat came within 3 miles of the shore occupied by General Casey.

The extreme range of 3-inch guns is 4,000 yards.

I may mention that soon after the appearance of the rebel steamers the artillery of this division was placed in position and so kept throughout the day, from which it could be instantly deployed near the beach in case the enemy came within range. But of course no ammunition was thrown away upon an enemy at twice the effective range of our guns.

I am, captain, respectfully, &c.,

G. D. BAILEY,

Colonel and Chief of Division Artillery.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
April 13, 1862—4 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,

Secretary of War:

By an explanation of Brigadier-General Casey it would appear that his division was not near the three vessels that were captured by the

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Jamestown. The troops on the shore belonged to some other corps. The aide-de-camp says he was 2 or 3 miles distant. All quiet, and weather fine.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

Statement showing number of men composing the Army of the Potomac after its disembarkation on the Peninsula, April 13, 1862.

	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate on special duty, sick, and in arrest.	Aggregate absent.	Total aggregate present and absent.
Major-General McClellan, general staff, and unassigned troops	14,333	567	2,511	17,411
Second Corps (General Sumner)	18,778	919	2,251	21,948
Third Corps (General Heintzelman)	34,628	1,207	3,798	39,633
Fourth Corps (General Keyes)	33,231	1,572	3,926	38,729
Grand aggregate	100,970	4,265	12,486	117,721

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., December 31, 1862.

It is hereby certified that the preceding statement is accurately compiled from the morning report of the 13th day of April, 1862, signed by Major-General McClellan and his assistant adjutant-general, Seth Williams, and now on file in this office.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 117. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., Ap'l* 13, 1862.

The following is to be read at the head of each company of this army:

All persons whatsoever, other than officers or parties on military duty and properly authorized, are prohibited passing to the front of this army beyond the line of main guards. Pickets and guards will arrest persons infringing upon this regulation and turn them over to the provost-marshal of division.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR YORKTOWN,
April 14, 1862—11.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We are getting up the heavy guns, mortars, and ammunition quite rapidly. The bridges and roads leading to proposed position of the

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trenches are being rapidly made. Our reconnaissances are now giving us the information we need. I cannot exaggerate the difficulties of reconnaissances here, but we are surmounting them.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

NEAR YORKTOWN, *April* 14, 1862.

General J. W. RIPLEY,
Chief of Ordnance:

Twelve 10-inch mortars, eight 8-inch mortars, one 8-inch siege howitzer, five 100-pounder and five 30-pounder Parrott's, and ten 4½-inch rifled guns of the siege train requested to be sent here have arrived, and we hear nothing of the remainder. I am directed to ask that the other guns ordered may be pushed forward immediately, and that navy carriages may be procured, if possible, for the eight other 100-pounder Parrott guns on hand in New York and at Fort Monroe. I am also directed to ask that all the war rockets and tripods for firing the same at Washington Arsenal may be sent here; also the Union repeating guns and ammunition on hand; 500 carcasses each for 12 and 24 and 32 pounders, and for 8 and 10 inch calibers any incendiary shells that may be procured, and all the 4½-inch guns available. If any tables of fire have been prepared for these guns they ought also to be furnished, and I would again urge upon the Department the necessity of having an efficient officer to attend to the forwarding of stores after their arrival in this vicinity. It is probable that much property will be lost without such an officer, and at this time it may be invaluable.

C. P. KINGSBURY,
Colonel and Chief of Ordnance.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT,
Near Yorktown, April 14 [1862]—9 p. m.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN:

I have seen General Franklin, and beg to thank you for your kindness and consideration. I now understand the matter, which I did not before.

Our field guns annoyed the enemy considerably to-day. Roads and bridges now progressing rapidly. Siege guns and ammunition coming up very satisfactorily. Shall have nearly all up to-morrow.

The tranquillity of Yorktown is nearly at an end.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT,
Near Yorktown, April 14, 1862—10.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Weather continues favorable. Making good progress in repairing the roads to the depots as well as on the new roads and bridges leading to the trenches. Busily making gabions and fascines and other

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siege material while getting up guns and making roads. Have actually at the artillery depot just in rear of my camp ten rifled 4½-inch guns, ten 24-pounder siege guns, one 8-inch siege howitzer, nine 10-inch mortars, seven 8-inch mortars, one 8-inch howitzer, 105 barrels powder, 775 round shot and shell. The work of landing got on during the night. Our field artillery and sharpshooters have done considerable firing to-day, annoying the enemy considerably.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WACHUSETT, *April* 14, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I am very sorry you are obliged to defer your visit to-day, as we may soon have thick weather.

The enemy are collecting about the picket station I designated yesterday as the one where notes were being taken. The troops are in the rear, out of range, and came down in squads of a dozen to look at the ships. They seem to anticipate us.

From the ship to-day it would seem that the works being thrown up at Gloucester's upper works are to defend their rear, which has been neglected up to this time to a certain extent. Our movement on it should be hastened, to save our troops as much as possible.

Last night a contraband came on board from Gloucester in a canoe, at which they fired. He is *not* intelligent; says there are only five companies of troops in Gloucester, and that they have many pickets out; one company of 15 or 20 men near the creek (Sarah's); that they expect the Merrimac here, Colonel or General Magruder having written for her to come up, which is promised him; that the battery at Gloucester Point is commanded by Jeff. Page, late of U. S. Navy, a good officer; Richard Page, also formerly of Navy, in command of one of the upper works at Gloucester; that they are very sanguine of sinking vessels, and have practiced their firing, which is very accurate; says Page (Jeff.) can kill a dog at a mile. He knows roads and creeks. I will send his p. m. If you want him, telegraph.

Would it not be well to communicate with flag-officer Magruder's expectation of Merrimac coming here? It can do no harm, and if she escape in the night we might be telegraphed the fact, as we must have room to oppose her more than we have here.

One-half hour on board this vessel is all that would be necessary to give you a clear idea from this stand-point.

I much fear if we delay or are obliged to delay our landing the troops will find a battery in the rear of picket station to oppose them with telling effect.

Yours,

J. S. MISSROON.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT,
April 15, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Nothing of interest during the night. Our working parties very strong to-day. Hope to make good progress in the roads and bridges leading to the position of our heavy batteries. We are doing all that

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men can do to expedite matters. Raining a little this morning; not enough to do any harm yet. I am on point of going on board gunboats with Franklin to reconnoiter.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

NEAR YORKTOWN,
April 15, 1862—6 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Have found what seems a good landing place for Franklin, who has returned to superintend embarkation of his division.

Naval rifled shells have annoyed enemy considerably to-day. All our work being rapidly pushed, but there is an immense deal to do.

Saw no signs to-day of re-enforcements to the enemy. Weather good again.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

CAMP NEAR YORKTOWN,
April 15, 1862—6 p. m.

General J. W. RIPLEY, *Washington:*

Can you send us some more 100-pounder rifle and 4½-inch guns? Need them much.

Please do all possible to hurry forward all the train 30-pounder Parrotts, 8-inch siege howitzers, &c., that are still behind. I am anxious to open as soon as possible with overwhelming batteries.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *April* 15, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I arrived this morning. Have been on board of the Monitor, and thence to the Minnesota, where I saw Commodore Goldsborough, whose plan for receiving the Merrimac is as perfect as circumstances will admit. He awaits an attack, and will not be drawn from his position into shallow water. Merrimac not seen to-day. Commodore Goldsborough has sent four gunboats to General McClellan's assistance, and has three more in reserve to aid the landing in the Severn. The necessity of occupying Gloucester seems admitted on all hands. Gloucester once taken, Commodore Goldsborough will pass above Yorktown and shell the enemy in flank. This is understood between the two commanders. The enemy has seen the necessity of defending Gloucester and is preparing for it. The country, made almost impassable by the late rains, will soon be in good condition for wagons, except through the known swamps. I hear much better accounts of the condition of the public property than was reported a few days ago on good authority. I am persuaded that the army is in good spirits, and is full of reliance on their commander, who is confident of success; but he needs heavy guns, which are but just now reaching him. I see no opening for any additional order from the War Department.

E. A. HITCHCOCK,
Major-General Volunteers.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, April 16, 1862—1.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Cavalry Corps:

General Smith has been directed to drive the enemy from the works they are erecting in the vicinity of the one-gun battery.

Please direct General Gorman to watch carefully Smith's right flank, and to prevent the enemy from crossing the stream to attack him in flank. It may be well for Gorman to create a diversion by shelling the fort at Union Mill, taking care that his artillery is well supported by infantry.

General Smith will move early in the morning; consequently General Gorman should be informed of the movement as early as possible.

By order of General McClellan:

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BURNT CHIMNEYS, *April* 16, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Corps:

General McClellan directs that you open fire with as many guns as you can possibly bring to bear on the forts in front of Gorman's, to create a diversion from this point.

You will probably hear a heavy firing at this point, but keep up your fire at the point indicated as long as there is anything in sight and until further orders, whether anything is seen or not.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BURNT CHIMNEYS, *April* 16, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Corps:

General McClellan directs that you send the other two brigades of General Sedgwick's division to the position now occupied by General Gorman and hold them in readiness to support General Smith at this point if he requires them. Richardson's division has been ordered up to your headquarters.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Burnt Chimneys, April 16, 1862.

General GORMAN,
Commanding Brigade, Sedgwick's Division:

Expend no more ammunition than is necessary to keep down the enemy's fire and prevent their working. A few carefully directed shots from time to time will accomplish the result. Waste no ammunition.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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SMITH'S DIVISION, *April* 16, 1862.

General R. B. MARCY, *Chief of Staff:*

General McClellan directs that you order General Casey to move at once to Warwick Court-House and there await further orders.

Send to General Smith, at the Burnt Chimneys, 1,000 sand bags. Order the remainder of Sedgwick's division to the immediate vicinity of General Gorman's, to encamp in a sheltered position.

Order Richardson up to the position now occupied by Sedgwick.

Direct Barnard to order an officer of engineers to Gorman's brigade, to lay out two batteries of six guns each near the positions occupied by the guns that were firing this morning. The object of these batteries is to keep down the fire of the enemy's works and to prevent them from constructing new ones. They may be half-sunken batteries with rough embrasures, and should be far enough advanced to render their fire perfectly certain. Some protection should also be constructed for the guard of these batteries. Lieutenant Merrill is charged with the construction of a battery at this point. All the work should be so far finished as to afford cover to-morrow morning.

Instruct Sumner to put a strong working party from Sedgwick's division on the road from Gorman's position to the Methodist Church—the road known as Sully's road. These orders should be given at once.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 16, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. D. KEYES,
Commanding Fourth Corps:

General McClellan directs that you order Davidson's brigade up to Hancock's present position; Hancock to the Burnt Chimneys to support Brooks; Graham's brigade to relieve Davidson, extending Couch's division to its right, watching the ground well from Widow Curtis' to the left of your line. Push your pickets well out to the front and hold everything well in hand. Cause a strong working party from Couch's division to finish the road from the Four Corners to Warwick Court-House. Casey's division has been ordered by telegraph to move at once to Warwick Court-House, there to await your further orders.

The orders for the movement must be given at once. Davidson and Hancock have been ordered at once. After an examination of the grounds I have determined to hold this position and build batteries to-night. Smith has gained a very important advantage to-day.

You had better obstruct the roads and fell timbers within the lines just occupied by Smith's division.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEAR YORKTOWN,
April 16, 1862—10 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

General Smith has just handsomely silenced the fire of the so-called one-gun battery and forced the enemy to suspend work.

Mott's battery behaved splendidly.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 16, 1862—1.30 p. m. (Received April 17, 11.50 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Smith has gained a very important position, which will, I hope, enable us to control a passage of the Warwick. He completely silenced the fire of the enemy's batteries. I am re-enforcing the position, and will to-night erect batteries that will give us full control. The gallantry and skill shown by General Smith to-day will, I hope, secure his immediate confirmation by the Senate as brigadier-general of volunteers. Our loss is small, thanks to the arrangement of General Smith.

We are making good progress to-day. Have silenced the fire of two of the enemy's works at important points and obliged them to suspend work at these points.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT, *April* 16, 1862—6.45 p. m.
(Received April 17, 11.50 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have this moment returned from the new position of Smith's division. The batteries near the Burnt Chimneys are completely silenced. They still have infantry in the works. Some skirmishers of Third Vermont crossed the stream, wading to their arm-pits. They allowed their ammunition to get wet, and finally fell back upon the approach of a large force of infantry. We now have complete control of the batteries in question and the hills. Dam epaulements will be erected adjacent and our position held. Gorman to-night also silenced five of enemy's batteries, and our men have behaved splendidly. Our loss small, but our shells have inflicted great damage upon the enemy.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, April 16, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

Good for the first lick! Hurrah for Smith and the one-gun battery! Let us have Yorktown with Magruder and his gang before the first of May and the job will be over. I have seen General Ripley about the shells.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

U. S. STEAMER WACHUSETT,
York River, April 16, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I sent the Anacostia last night to throw some shell into Gloucester at 11 and at 1 o'clock. Her commander reports to-

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day that he threw eleven into Gloucester and one into Yorktown, several of which were seen to explode. He says that when he commenced on Gloucester lights were visible where they were apparently at work, but were extinguished immediately. He also informed me that he had no more explosive shells, and asked to return. As I had no instructions in his case, I left him to act on his own discretion, in view of the orders he received from Captain Wyman. He has left, and requested me to forward inclosed letter to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commander.

[Inclosure.]

U. S. STEAMER ANACOSTIA,
York River, April 16, 1862.

SIR: I have expended all the explosive projectiles for the 50-pounder rifled guns, and as Captain Missroon will not give his consent for us to bring the 9-inch guns into action even at night, fearing that we may be crippled, and that in assisting us he may get some of his own vessels crippled, which he wishes to keep in good order for what he considers more important duties expected hereafter. I am therefore of but little use here at present, and shall return to-day to the Potomac, when I hope to exchange my 9-inch guns for a couple of 80-pounder rifled guns, and with them to return here soon. We have landed in the enemy's works between 20 and 40 shells since we have been here.

Very respectfully, yours,

O. C. BADGER,
Lieutenant, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 118. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., Ap'l* 16, 1862.

I. Brig. Gen. Stewart Van Vliet, chief quartermaster, will immediately establish a temporary post-office in the vicinity of these headquarters, under the charge of Capt. George B. Dandy, assistant quartermaster.

The mail for Fort Monroe and the North will close at 10 a. m., and the mail from Fort Monroe will be ready for delivery at about 5 p. m., daily.

Mail matter may be sent to and received from the post-office at these headquarters by messengers from the headquarters of army corps, divisions, and independent commands.

All letters for the mail must be prepaid, or (if soldiers' letters) certified, as required by law.

II. The following notice from the Post-Office Department is published for the information of the Army of the Potomac:

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT, *April* 3, 1862.

The Post-Office Department deems it advisable that all letters addresed to officers and soldiers of the Army of the Potomac, whether near Washington or moving South, should be mailed to Washington City. From that office they will be properly forwarded in separate packages to the respective corps and divisions, and their delivery facilitated. Commanders of divisions are requested, as movements occur, to cause

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notice to be given to the postmaster of Washington to what convenient point such packages destined to regiments under their command should be sent.

JOHN A. KASSON,
First Assistant Postmaster-General.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 17, 1862. (Received April 17, 6.12 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Telegrams from General Wool referring to an order from the War Department to muster out the Ninth New York Cavalry. The order has never been received at these headquarters, although the regiment forms part of the Army of the Potomac. The regiment is serving with the reserve artillery, and from all that I can learn the officers and men here present would consider it a disgrace to be sent to the rear and mustered out now that they are under fire of the enemy. I would respectfully suggest the suspension of the order until the present operations are over; at all events in the case of this regiment, who do not desire to leave the field of battle.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., April 17, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

The order in respect to disbanding the Ninth New York Cavalry was given on the representation that the men had been fraudulently imposed on by their officers to enlist. They were not known to be in actual service. You will, of course, use your discretion and retain or discharge them, as you please. The order to disband those under your command is suspended.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

NEAR YORKTOWN, *April* 17, 1862—7.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The position occupied yesterday by Smith was intrenched last night, so that we have been able to prevent enemy from working to-day and kept his guns silent. Same result at batteries at Wynn's Mill. Yorktown shelled gunboats and some of our barges to-day without effect. Good deal of firing from Yorktown land batteries; little or no damage. Lieutenant Merrill, U. S. Engineers, severely wounded yesterday evening in the shoulder by fragment of shell; bone not injured; wound not dangerous. Lieutenant Wagner, of Topographical Engineers, lost his left arm this afternoon by fragment; amputation performed and the lieutenant doing well. I respectfully recommend that these excellent

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officers be brevetted for their services, untiring energy, and courage. Their devotion deserves reward from the country. I can ill spare them now.

I have not received the name of any other officer wounded late yesterday after I left the ground. Two of Smith's regiments suffered severely from musket fire. I have not the details yet. Our work progresses, with weather excellent and everything encouraging.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

U. S. STEAMER WACHUSETT,
York River, April 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Thanks for your letter of yesterday. Am glad of the effect of your fire.

I shall hereafter send some rifle shell at night into Yorktown and some 11-inch shell into Gloucester to prevent work at night.

During the day rifle shell shall be thrown into Gloucester, and when working parties are observed at any time.

I am, very truly, yours,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commander.

12.30.—The rifle gun now being fired from water battery has range to Wormley's Creek. I suggested this morning the dismounting the two rifles of the enemy. If you commence too far off they may see the object and remove them out of range.

J. S. MISSROON.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, April 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

Your communication to the Secretary of War regarding the failure of the 3-inch percussion shells has been referred to this department. The fuses used are Schenkl's, the best of their kind. It is suggested that the failures may arise from an omission to reverse the screw cap, the operation of which General Barry or Major Webb understands.

Mr. Schenkl, the inventor, will leave to-night for Yorktown to investigate the matter.

JAS. W. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 17, 1862.

General J. W. RIPLEY,
Chief of Ordnance:

Telegram received. Much obliged for your promptness. We shall require a good deal of ammunition, and probably as many heavy guns

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as you can let us have. Mortars will be very useful. I think the 4½-inch gun will be admissible, and am only sorry we have not more of them.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 18, 1862—2.30 a. m. (Received 8.20 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

At about one-half hour after midnight the enemy attacked Smith's division and attempted to carry his guns. Smith repulsed them handsomely and took some prisoners. I have no details yet; will forward as soon as my aides return. The firing was very heavy. All is now quiet.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., April 18, 1862—4.32 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Near Yorktown:

Your dispatches of this morning received and communicated to the President. He directed me to ask you whether the indications do not show that the enemy are inclined to take the offensive. Banks has moved on to Mount Jackson yesterday and to New Market to-day; has taken some locomotives and prisoners.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT,
April 18, 1862—8 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Nothing of interest to-day. The enemy made a second attempt on Smith's position at 4 a. m., not in much force; was at once repulsed.

Things pretty quiet to-day. We commenced to-day and this evening the construction of six batteries, besides the task of converting a temporary shelter into a permanent battery. Most of these are concealed from view, and I hope to complete them before the enemy finds us out. We have now five plates completed across Wormley's Creek, and hope to finish the others to-morrow. The main artillery road to the trenches will be essentially finished to-morrow evening. I hope to have twelve heavy guns in battery by daybreak, five more to-morrow night, twenty-one more next night. During the last-mentioned night we will commence the first parallel and the heavy batteries that will be in exposed positions, and by means of the batteries I have mentioned we will be able to cover completely the work in the exposed trenches, and am anxious that heavy guns and ammunition should be hurried forward as rapidly as possible.

I am now in condition to push forward the works rapidly. We have

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done an immense amount of work, and its effects will soon be apparent. Everything goes well. It is important that this information should not leak out.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 18, 1862—10 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Dispatch received. I cannot hope such good fortune as that the enemy will take the offensive. I am perfectly prepared for any attack the enemy may make. He will do nothing more than sorties. I beg that the President will be satisfied that the enemy cannot gain anything by attacking me. The more he does attack the better I shall be contented. All going well. I am glad to hear of General Banks' good fortune.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT,
April 18, 1862—11.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Please direct General C. Grover to report to me for orders. We need many more officers of engineers and topographical engineers. All that can be spared for service during this siege ought to be ordered here on temporary duty. Cannot the work at Fort Monroe be temporarily committed to a foreman, so as to permit Captain Stewart and Lieutenant Farquhar to serve here for a few days? I feel the absolute necessity of the services of as many officers of engineers and topographical engineers as can be collected during the operations in front of Yorktown.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 18, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. W. RIPLEY,
Chief of Ordnance:

The supply of field ammunition, battery and reserve, is becoming rapidly exhausted, and the consumption of that for small-arms is very great. I have to request that 200 rounds per gun of the former and 200 pounds per man of the latter may be added to my former requisition and sent forward with rapidity. Requisitions are coming, too, for all sorts of battery stores, which cannot be filled. The forges for the siege train have not yet arrived, and cannot be heard from.

C. P. KINGSBURY.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 18, 1862. (Received April 19, 1862, 9.40 a. m.)

General RIPLEY, *Chief of Ordnance:*

Will be glad to have another 200-pounder Parrott. Can provide for more if you have them. Will also be glad to have more 10-inch sea-coast mortars. Send the additional 13-inch mortars. Can use them well. Please hurry up ammunition.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, April 18, 1862—12.35 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

Telegram received. The first 200-pounder and carriage were shipped from Cold Spring on the 8th instant to Fort Monroe. Lieutenant Baylor has been instructed to hold it subject to your order. The second one is finished, and will be sent to Fort Monroe at once; it will be placed at your disposal if you desire it. Have no more siege mortars finished. Have ordered Colonel Ramsay to send you ten 10-inch sea-coast mortars. Can let you have ten more 13-inch sea-coast mortars if you want them.

A large supply of 3-inch ammunition will be sent down to the arsenal at Fort Monroe at once.

JAS. W. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Hampton Roads, April 18, 1862.

Capt. A. A. HARWOOD,
Chief of Ordnance:

The 100-pounder Parrott is at present the only gun that can avail us anything at Yorktown. They are of immense service. The carriage of the Sebago's 100-pounder has already given out in firing upon that place. Send us another one to replace it in the earliest possible way. Send us, too, four more 100-pounder Parrotts, with carriages for ship-board and fitments complete. Send us also a full supply of projectiles for 100-pounder Parrotts. We shall have to use a great many of them, and there are none on hand in charge of our ordnance officer at Fort Monroe.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 18, 1862.

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

General Van Vliet has applied to you to have some officers of his department ordered here. Their services are very much needed, and they should be ordered here immediately.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 114. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., Ap'l* 18, 1862.

* * * * * * *

9th. During the progress of the present operations in front of Yorktown the Second and Fourth Army Corps, constituting the left of the line of this army, will be under the command of Brig. Gen. E. V. Sumner, through whom orders from these headquarters will be transmitted.

The Second Army Corps will still remain under the immediate command of General Sumner.

Reports from the commander of the Fourth Army Corps requiring immediate action will be transmitted direct to these headquarters and copies furnished to General Sumner. In all other cases reports will be sent through the headquarters of General Sumner.

Special instructions will from time to time be given for General Sumner's guidance.

* * * * * * *

13th. All the engineer troops, tools, and materials will be under the direct control of the senior engineer of this army, Brig. Gen. J. G. Barnard, who will receive his instructions direct from these headquarters, and through whom all orders affecting the engineer department will be communicated. All requisitions for engineer officers, troops, or material will be made direct to the senior engineer, and not through any other staff department.

An officer will be assigned to duty with the senior engineer as his assistant, who will act as adjutant of the engineers. All details of engineer officers or engineer troops for duty in the trenches will be made daily by the senior engineer.

14th. The general engineer depot will be placed under the direction of Brig. Gen. D. P. Woodbury, who will detail from his command a competent officer, with the necessary assistants, to take charge of it.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

———— ————,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT,
April 19, 1862—9 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Everything unusually quiet to-day. Enemy makes little reply to our fire. Our work progressing quite well.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT,
April 19, 1862—9.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I recovered to-day the bodies of our men killed on the 16th—29 in number. The enemy have 4 wounded in their hands, whom I will ex-

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deavor to recover to-morrow by offering 4 well men in exchange. The officer bearing the flag acknowledged a severe loss on their part, and spoke in high terms of the conduct of our men. It has been raining this evening, but has now ceased.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Yorktown, April 19, 1862.

General J. W. RIPLEY:

Please send, in addition to previous requisition, 100 rounds for all the siege and field guns of this army. We shall need them to destroy the enemy's parapet. He is playing the game of concealing his guns when under fire, and we must use our shells as mines, and the parapet fuses should be arranged accordingly.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., April 19, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: The Secretary will endeavor to have nominations for brigade quartermasters now before the Senate confirmed, and as officers can be reached your requisitions for quartermasters will be supplied. In the mean time you should detail such lieutenants as your chief quartermaster or brigade commanders select for temporary duty as acting assistant quartermasters. I have none available whom I have not already ordered to duty.

Captain Myers, for whom General Van Vliet asks, is chief quartermaster of General McDowell's *corps d'armée*. Colonel Ingalls, his former chief quartermaster, is with you. This left McDowell's corps without any quartermaster of experience.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, April 19, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, Yorktown:

GENERAL: I have telegraphed to you in relation to quartermasters. I wish I could supply General Van Vliet's requisition for quartermasters of experience, but the few such are either out of my command (being attached to armies in the field, and subject, therefore, like those with you, to the orders of their immediate commanding officers, or employed in those positions and duties in which experience is indispensable to the equipment, support, and supply of the army in the field) or are on parole, or physically unable to take the field.

I have endeavored to procure for you the authority which I think important to the good of the service, to confer acting appointments as

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captains and assistant quartermasters or brigade quartermasters upon officers now in your army, with the understanding and promise that they would be recommended to the Senate by the President on your recommendation. Deserving men, who as lieutenants in the volunteer service have developed qualities and gained experience fitting them for the responsible duties of brigade quartermasters, could thus be appointed. Such an arrangement would give the commanders of the army in the field the power to select from among the many good men who must be in an army the best, and to reward the deserving. It would be a powerful aid to him in exciting emulation, and would give to the Quartermaster's Department men of value and ability. If the Secretary and President would promise to nominate to the Senate the men thus selected and recommended by the commanding generals there could be no doubt of their confirmation.

But I have not yet succeeded in this attempt. The pressure from members of the two Houses of Congress in favor of their respective constituents is very difficult, I suppose, to resist; and though I hope in time to get some such rule made absolute, I have not succeeded in the first attempt. See my dispatch of to-day.

I am, general, very truly and respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

U. S. STEAMER WACHUSETT,
York River, Virginia, April 19, 1862.

General MCCLELLAN,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I write to say that we have again got our 100-pounder rifle mounted, with its carriage sufficiently strengthened to endure service, with ordinary care.

Last night we threw several 11-inch shell into Yorktown and Gloucester, all which were heard to explode after they reached their destination.

I am glad to learn that General Franklin, with part of his troops, have arrived. My plans for co-operation are ready for approval or amendment by him. I hope you have not met losses during the last three days.

Very respectfully, yours,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commanding.

I shall throw some shell to-night unless desired not to do so by you. You have been, as well as the enemy, silent to-day.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, April 19, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

Telegram received. Have ordered ten 10-inch and ten 13-inch sea-coast mortars to be sent to you at once. Regret that the projectiles sent with the 4½-inch siege guns do not work well. Have directed

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Hotchkiss to send you 10,000 of his with the utmost dispatch as fast as made.

JAS. W. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, April 19, 1862.

Col. C. P. KINGSBURY,
Chief of Ordnance, Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

Telegrams received. The gins and sling-carts have been ordered to be sent to you from Washington. Twenty spare 6-pounder carriages and four 12-pounder heavy have been ordered to Fort Monroe. The reserve 3-inch ammunition will leave the Washington Arsenal to-day. The sixty-seven hundred rounds for the field batteries are being prepared.

The additional 200 rounds per man will be sent forward as soon as transportation can be provided.

JAS. W. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 86. } WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE,
Washington, April 19, 1862.

1. Brig. Gens. C. Grover and F. E. Patterson, U. S. Volunteers, are assigned to duty with the Army of the Potomac, and will repair to Camp Winfield Scott and report to Major-General McClellan.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13. } HDQRS. LEFT WING ARMY OF POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, April 19, 1862.

In compliance with orders from Headquarters Army of the Potomac, dated Camp Winfield Scott, April 18, 1862, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the left wing of that army, consisting of the Second and Fourth *Corps d'Armée.* All concerned will govern themselves accordingly.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 20, 1862—11 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Nothing new of interest to-day. Work on our batteries rapidly progressing. Some thirteen 13-inch mortars have reached Cheeseman's Creek. Enemy very silent to-day.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., April 20, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown:

Telegram received. Do I understand that you would like 100 rounds for each field and siege piece prepared with percussion fuses? I have so ordered them. Seventy-six thousand rounds of additional field ammunition were ordered to be prepared for you yesterday.

JAS. W. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

NEAR YORKTOWN,
April 20, 1862—Midnight.

General J. W. RIPLEY,
Chief of Ordnance:

Please send me all the 20-pounder Parrotts you can as soon as possible, and let me know how many you send and when I can look for them. I am short of siege guns.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, April 20, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I inclose herewith a letter to General Burnside, which will explain itself. I think there should be no delay in sending him the cavalry and artillery asked for.

I would beg to suggest the propriety, if possible, of recruiting for Burnside's regiments, as the most effective manner of bringing up his force. Recruits scattered among his veteran regiments will be much more effective than the same number of men formed into new regiments.

Our works are progressing well to-day. Very little firing.

General Holmes, of the rebel army, was ordered to North Carolina in command one week after the fall of New Berne. General E. K. Smith went to East Tennessee about five weeks ago.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Yorktown, Va., April 20, 1862.

Maj. Gen. AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: I have information, which I regard as entirely reliable, that on the 25th of March a movement of troops commenced from Richmond for North Carolina to operate against your command. These regiments came from Fredericksburg and Gordonsville, having formed part of the Army of Manassas. They were: Fourth, Tenth, and Fourteenth

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Alabama regiments; two Virginia regiments; two North Carolina regiments; Sixth and Sixteenth Mississippi; Eighth Georgia; two other Georgia regiments; one or two Louisiana regiments; Thomas Artillery (four batteries); Ransom's regiment of North Carolina Cavalry; the heavy guns formerly at Leesburg, said to be from twenty to twenty-five in number and generally large rifled guns. I think the number and caliber of these guns exaggerated; there are probably ten to twelve. The total being thirteen or fourteen regiments of infantry, one regiment of cavalry, and four light batteries.

The railways in the South are represented to be in a miserable condition, both as regards track and rolling stock, so the progress of these troops was probably slow. It is represented that the energetic steps taken by the rebel Government in reference to the conscription have filled their regiments.

I learn to-day that General R. E. Lee commands in front of me, having Johnston under him, Lee being now Commander-in-Chief of the rebels, and that their force in and around Yorktown numbers more than 80,000 men.

I would recommend to you to make no offensive movement beyond New Berne until you have reduced Fort Macon; also to be well on the alert against an attempt to turn your left flank. I hope the Department may be able to let you have some of the heavy guns used in the siege of Fort Pulaski.

Very truly, yours,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 20, 1862.

Hon. G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

How soon can I count on the Galena with certainty? I am fast reaching a point where the success of my operations must to a certain extent depend upon the fact of her co-operation or the reverse. She will be of very great assistance to me, and if she can do what we were talking of will shorten my work here very much.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

[APRIL 20, 1862.]

Major-General McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

MY DEAR GENERAL: The 100-pounder gun-carriage was sent to Cheeseman's Creek last evening. The carriage of the Sebago's gun gave way again yesterday and is not now in good condition, but it shall be used to-day. I have notice from the flag-officer that gun-carriage makers are on their way from Washington for this place. It is important to us both to have them for repairing carriages. Also that he had asked for two frigates, with heavy Parrott cannon, to be sent here, but I fear they will come too late.

I think it important that the negro "Free Aleck," at Cheeseman's

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Creek, be arrested as soon as possible, as he is said to take information to Yorktown at night.

I have received your letter of 19th, and am astonished to find the number and weight of cannon you will have in position to-morrow, but fear the rain will prevent much work.

I think we have gained over the Indian, and think his information may be relied upon, as he knows the consequences of deceiving us and is anxious to remain with us.

The thick weather made it impossible to get vessels into a position last night for throwing shell without getting aground in this narrow channel and at same time unable to see where to throw shells, but they shall act on every possible occasion hereafter.

Yours, very truly,

J. S. MISSROON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, April 20, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have nothing of especial interest to report. The rain is again upon us and will interfere more or less with our work, but the results cannot be so serious as they were when we first took up our positions. Battery No. 1 would have been armed last night with five 100-pounder Parrotts but for the rain. As it is one is mounted, the platforms laid, and the carriage in position. We hope to finish it to-night. The construction of No. 2 has been delayed somewhat by the necessity of extreme caution in regard to furnishing, when it will no doubt be ready for its fifteen guns to-night.

No. 3 will be ready for its armament of six guns by daybreak to-morrow.

No. 4 will be ready for its ten 13-inch mortars before they meet us.

No. 5 will be ready for its five guns to-morrow.

There is more delay than I like in the arrival of heavy guns and ammunition. I have, however, sent to have a thorough examination made of all the vessels near here and Fort Monroe, in hopes of finding some of our missing guns and ammunition. There was more or less musketry firing last night; nothing important or serious. Some quite heavy musketry an hour ago on our left. I have not yet learned the cause, but as everything is now quiet I presume it amounted to very little.

I inclose copies of communications between the rebel general near the Burnt Chimneys and General Smith. The enemy does not appear to have learned much by the correspondence as to the name of the commanding general opposite.

As I telegraphed last night, the colonel who brought the flag acknowledged to a very severe loss on their part; said that our men acted most gallantly, and that they (the rebels) could not show their heads without being picked off. I observe that the Norfolk Day Book, as usual, magnifies the affair into an assault. I do not know what designation they will give to the real attack when it does occur.

It is still raining, but our work is progressing. Very little artillery firing to-day thus far.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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[Inclosures.]

SATURDAY, *April* 19, 1862—10 a. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER OF BRIGADE
OF FEDERAL TROOPS IN FRONT:

SIR: I send a flag of truce by Col. William M. Levy to state to you that many of your dead are lying unburied in front of our works, and to propose a cessation of hostilities for two hours for the purpose of their interment by us.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL J. SEMMES,
Brigadier-General.

SATURDAY, *April* 19, 1862—2.30 p. m.

GENERAL COMMANDING FORCES OPPOSITE:

I would desire that the bodies of our men on your side of the river be delivered to us at the middle of the dam; if this is impracticable, in the middle of the stream.

By command of general commanding forces opposite:

L. D. H. CURRIE.

APRIL 19, 1862—4 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER OF BRIGADE
OF FEDERAL TROOPS IN FRONT:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your answer to my note of this date, and to state that your proposition to receive the bodies at the middle of the dam is accepted, and that hostilities will be suspended for two hours from receipt of this note.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL J. SEMMES,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, *April* 21, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Your dispatch of the 19th was received that day. Fredericksburg is evacuated and the bridges destroyed by the enemy, and a small part of McDowell's command occupies this side of the Rappahannock, opposite the town. He purposes moving his whole force to that point.

A. LINCOLN.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Warwick Court-House, Va., April 21, 1862.

Maj. J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Brigadier-General Sumner's Staff:

SIR: In reply to your telegram, just received, asking to know the best ground on which to concentrate my corps, I respectfully request that I may be allowed to defer my final reply until Brigadier-General Sumner and Major-General McClellan shall have examined the minutes of information derived from three contrabands who came over from the enemy this morning. Their reports correspond so nearly with so many rumors, reports, and appearances which had before come to my

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knowledge, that I am unable, without knowing the general plan of operations, to suggest a concentration of my corps. Independently of the general plan of operations, I would recommend a concentration of one division in rear and to the left of my headquarters, and two divisions on the front, now guarded by Brigadier-General Couch; in which case I could effect nothing without a larger supply of heavy artillery.

If it be true that the enemy have successive lines of defense, beginning with a wet ditch or stream which cannot be filled up, I am unable, until I shall have found a weaker point than I have yet discovered, to recommend anything which supposes an assault in front. If Mulberry Island has been evacuated, as the negroes say (and other appearances indicate that the force there has been recently reduced), we can press sharply upon the enemy from Smith's position, and with some heavy artillery we can threaten and perhaps force a passage on the left while the battering at Yorktown is in progress, and at the same time safely leave my corps without material change in its present position.

I make these suggestions for the sole reason that my want of accurate knowledge of the general plan of operations renders it necessary that I should return a qualified answer to your telegram.

The three contrabands and the minutes of their examination will be sent over with this letter.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

[Indorsement.]

APRIL 22, 1862.

General MARCY, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I have sent two engineer officers to make a careful examination to-day of the left of our line and I will report this evening.

Respectfully,

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 119. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., Ap'l 21, 1862.*

* * * * * * *

III. The following will be substituted for paragraph 2, Special Orders, No. 118, April 20, 1862:

The plan of a battery and its location having been determined, the general commanding will designate the division of the army which is to perform the labor of its construction.

The general of the trenches will be responsible that the labor is diligently and industriously rendered and that the plans and instructions of the engineer or officer in charge are rigidly adhered to. The chief engineer will indicate the officer of engineers or artillery charged with the professional responsibility of the construction, giving his name to these headquarters and the general of the trenches. At each headquarters of division an officer will be designated during the siege who will be charged with the special duty of regulating the details of working parties. He will consult daily with the engineer or artillery officer in charge of a construction, and upon his requisition for the detail of laborers will, under the orders of the division commander, furnish the detail. He will be responsible for the intrenching tools of the division,

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which he will distribute to the detail going out to work in the proportion fixed by the engineer officer, taking the receipt of the commanding officer of the detail therefor, and upon the return of the party will receive the tools again. He will see that the working parties are properly constituted and leave the division at the hour fixed, in order to arrive in time at the place of labor. He will visit the battery at least twice in twenty-four hours, and will report to the division commander the result of his observation during the visit.

The commanding officer of the working party will, on his arriving at the battery or trench, report to the officer in charge of the work. He will be directly responsible for the constancy and industry of the labor performed and the strictness of adherence to the plans and instructions of the engineer or constructing officer. When a work shall be finished the engineer will make a written report of the fact to these headquarters, the chief engineer, and to the general of the trenches.

When there are not tools enough at the headquarters of a division to meet the requirements of a working party the officer charged with regulating the details will at once make a requisition for them on General D. P. Woodbury, in charge of the engineer depot.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
April 22, 1862.

GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, U. S. Army, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

The Galena sailed this forenoon for Hampton Roads direct.

G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, April 22, 1862—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

Your telegram is just received. Four 20-pounders have been ordered to be sent to Ship Point from Washington, five from New York, and all that there are finished at the West Point Foundery. Twenty carriages for these guns will be sent from Washington. About 1,000 projectiles will be sent from New York, and a large supply from West Point. The Quartermaster-General will be notified that these stores are urgently needed.

All of these guns will reach you as soon as the Quartermaster's Department can transport them to you.

JAS. W. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 22, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The enemy have fired a good deal to-day, but have done no harm as far as I have heard. A sharp skirmish with Smith's pickets to-day; en-

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emy repulsed with loss. Recent rains have injured the roads; delayed us, but we are making progress all the time.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 23, 1862.

Brigadier-General THOMAS:

Cases have occurred of the entire destitution of Union families—a condition arising from the inevitable ravages of war. This it will be impossible to prevent. In such cases it is but just, when this class of persons have suffered as well from our own troops as from the enemy, that they should at least be preserved from starvation. I desire to be instructed if an issue of rations can be made under such circumstances to destitute Union families.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAMP SCOTT,
April 23, 1862—10.40 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Night passed off quietly. Batteries Nos. 1, 6, 7, and 8 are complete. No. 2 will be ready complete to-morrow at daylight, if the guns intended for it can be landed in time. They were delayed at Old Point by rough weather. Nos. 3 and 5 should be ready by daylight. We'll complete communication to these batteries and the left half of first parallel to-night, I hope. Very little firing to-day. Our men hard at work. Weather again good. Roads should be good by to-morrow.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *April* 23, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The Merrimac, it is reported, will be out in a day or two. She is very much strengthened, and has one or two guns of larger caliber than she had when she destroyed the Cumberland and Congress frigates the 8th of March. The weight of iron added to her has brought her down so that she draws 21½ feet of water. She has an iron beak of 12 feet in length, but below water, and cannot be seen. The object is to run under the upper deck of the Monitor.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, April 23, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown:

Thirty 20-pounders will be sent to you from the West Point Foundery, making, with those from New York and Washington, thirty-nine in all.

JAS. W. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 24, 1862—3 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Colonel Gove made a very handsome reconnaissance this morning and obtained very important information, without losing a man. New works discovered on Smith's left this morning. Work on first parallel commenced to-day under cover of timber. Exposed part on left of Wormley's Creek will be commenced to-night. Will commence under cover of brush the part on right of Wormley's Creek to-morrow morning and complete exposed part to-morrow night. Will also at once commence new batteries. Enemy quiet to-day. All going on well.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., April 25, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

GENERAL: The inclosed extract from a letter just received at this Department I am advised by General Hitchcock to send to you, in view of the high character of the writer.

I should deem it impertinent to obtrude my own opinions or of my own motion to send you such a paper, notwithstanding my intense solicitude for your success and a desire to render any aid I can.

Yours, very truly,

P. H. WATSON.

[Inclosure.]

Excuse me for again troubling you, but the condition of things in your neighborhood causes me much anxiety. In my opinion there is to be no stand made by the Confederates at Yorktown. The array there and Jeff. Davis' visit and inspection is a mere demonstration. If Davis is a general, which I think he is, he will on some day, in less than ten days, concentrate all his forces suddenly and attack McDowell at Fredericksburg or between that point and Richmond.

Preparatory to this he will draw off, and is probably now drawing off, all his troops from Yorktown, leaving all the time enough there to amuse McClellan and keep out of the way his 70,000 men. For this 10,000 men will be ample, and he will fall on McDowell with his whole disposable force.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., April 25, 1862.

The PRESIDENT:

By the direction of the Secretary of War I transmit herewith for your information the accompanying letter and inclosures just received from the Secretary of the Navy, urging the capture of Norfolk, and suggesting the military measures which in his opinion should be taken for the accomplishment of that object.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War.

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[Inclosure.]

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
April 24, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of dispatch, No. 214, of Flag-Officer Goldsborough, received this day at this Department. The views expressed by him in regard to the possession of Norfolk accord so fully with my own that I deem it a duty to communicate them to you. I know not that it is possible, in the existing state of things, to re-enforce General Burnside as proposed, but the capture of Norfolk would, in my opinion, next after New Orleans, be the most decisive blow that could be struck for the suppression of the rebellion.

I also send you an extract from a dispatch of Commander Missroon, of the steamer Wachusett, York River, in relation to the works at Yorktown.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GIDEON WELLES.

[Sub-inclosures.]

U. S. FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Hampton Roads, April 22, 1862.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: Three white men (one of them accompanied by his wife and two children) were picked up last night by the Baltimore. They were in a boat, and had, as they say, escaped from Norfolk.

One of them has been working for a long time past in the Gosport navy-yard. He describes the Merrimac as being off the yard, with a large gang of men working upon her day and night, fitting shutters to all her side ports. She has always had them, he says, to her end ports. He also informs me that four new wooden gunboats have been completed at the Norfolk yard and a fifth over in Norfolk, and that all are now ready for service. Furthermore, that at the Norfolk yard they are building rapidly a vessel to be just like the Merrimac in every respect except in size, which is only to be about 1,000 tons; that she is already far advanced toward completion in her wood work, and has even the wood work of her covering or house finished. Neither her engines nor any of her iron plates have yet been put in place. It is expected that she will be ready for use in about a month or so. This, he says, is the only vessel to be plated that the enemy is preparing at Norfolk. Besides the above five gunboats they are now building there four more.

I am perfectly satisfied of the truth of all these statements.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,
L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer, Comdg. North Atlantic Blockade Squadron.

N. B.—By a late Norfolk paper, which I forward to the Department to-day, it appears that a fight came off last Friday, near Elizabeth City, between some of General Burnside's men and the enemy, and that the latter were driven half way to Norfolk. The object of the attack on our part was, I know, to destroy the lock of the Dismal Swamp Canal at South Mills, which I have no doubt has been accomplished effectually. With this lock destroyed, and the Currituck link of the

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Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal kept choked, no iron-clad or other gunboats can go from Norfolk to the sounds of North Carolina. No vessel drawing over 3 or 3½ feet of water can pass through Currituck Sound from Norfolk, and so get into Croatan and Pamlico Sounds. I speak from positive information on this point, for I had the experiment tried, in effect, by Lieutenant Jeffers, when he was dispatched by me in charge of an army stern-wheel boat, drawing only 3 feet or so of water, to destroy some salt works at old Currituck Inlet.

Could General Burnside be promptly re-enforced with a body of 40,000 men I am convinced that he could possess himself of Norfolk in a fortnight after their arrival at Roanoke Island.

This idea I have entertained ever since that island surrendered to our arms, and the more I think of it the more I am confirmed in my belief. With the force the general would then have, he would, undoubtedly, use the roads leading from Powell's Point, Winton, and Gatesville, all three of which are good and practicable, and hold Roanoke Island and Winton as bases of operation.

These considerations may be of moment before a great while, if they are not so now.

Most respectfully,

L. M. G.

U. S. STEAMER WACHUSETT,
Yorktown, Va., April 23, 1862.

Flag-Officer L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Commanding North Atlantic Blockade Squadron:

SIR: The works of the enemy are excessively strong and powerfully armed. Their cannon are managed and served with surprising accuracy, exceeding anything I have heretofore known, and there is every indication of a most determined resistance. More than fifty heavy cannon bear upon this bay, and the destruction of vessels of this class is inevitable, if taken under such a fire, without their having the power to inflict any damage or but trifling damage to the enemy, owing to the superior and well-chosen position of their batteries.

I believe that any number of vessels of this or the gunboat class will not prevail against works so located as those now before me, and that an increase of numbers will only add to our casualties. General McClellan proposes to dismount some of the cannon before the vessels advance, and it is an evident necessity that he should do so to a very large extent. * * *

Respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commander.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 26, 1862. (Received April 27—9 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I am glad to write that the first parallel now extends to York River, being now complete. The most exposed portion was commenced to-night by the regulars. They are now well under cover, and the parallel will be nearly finished by daylight. Everything quiet to-night. No firing on either side that amounts to anything.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 27, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The first parallel essentially finished without accident; are at work upon batteries for the 10-inch mortars. Will commence new gun batteries to-night. Am anxious for the arrival of the expected 20 and 30 pounder Parrotts. The 13-inch mortars and the 200-pounder Parrotts—ten of the first and one of the latter—are safely within the mouth of Wormley's Creek, and will be in batteries to-day. No rain to-day. The roads were becoming horrid again. Enemy fired sharply with artillery for a while this morning, but did no harm.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. HOOKER'S DIVISION, THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Camp Winfield Scott, near Yorktown, Va., April 27, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that Lieutenant-Colonel Mott, with 1,000 men, held the advance of my front last night, extending from Porter's pickets to the Yorktown road. He reports the exchange of a few shots between his advanced pickets and those of the enemy. One of his men received a slight flesh wound in the leg. One of the rebel pickets delivered himself up soon after daylight this morning and has been sent to the provost-marshal-general. Valuable information can be gotten from him.

Colonel Brewster, commanding the Seventy-third Regiment New York Volunteers, was posted in the vicinity of Batteries Nos. 2 and 3. I received instructions yesterday for this regiment to throw out pickets to the left of the Yorktown road as far out as Battery No. 5, and accordingly so instructed the officer on duty. This morning he reports that, instead of that, the general of the trenches directed him to post his reserves farther to the right, and extended a portion of the Fourth Maine and Thirty-seventh New York Regiments to the right of the Yorktown road without his being informed that a change was to be made in the disposition of the troops. Colonel Brewster reports that he heard brisk firing, and that he is of opinion that it was between the two last-named regiments.

My single object in referring to this subject is to impress upon the mind of the major-general commanding the necessity of having a perfect understanding in the dispositions for night defense to avoid catastrophe. Nothing is more easy than for troops to mistake friends for enemies in these movements.

As it is required of the general of the trenches to report the operations of the pickets and reserves, is it expected that division commanders shall do the same thing?

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 126. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n Va., Ap'l 27, 1862.*

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III. Brig. Gen. F. J. Porter is assigned to duty as director of the siege. He will report in person at least twice each day to the general commanding, from whom, or the chief of staff, he will receive his instructions.

Instead of reporting to the chief of staff as heretofore ordered, the generals of the trenches will report to the director of the siege, and obey such orders as he may give them.

All persons on duty in the trenches, whether as guards, working parties, or serving guns, will obey the orders of the director of the siege.

All arrangements in reference to the construction of new works, their armament, and opening fire, &c., will be promptly communicated by the proper officer to the director of the siege as soon as determined upon.

It will be the duty of the director of the siege to determine the strength and location of the guards of the trenches, for which he will make requisitions, in ample season, upon the adjutant-general of this army.

* * * * * * *

VI. The officer charged in each division, by existing orders from these headquarters, with the duty of regulating the details of working parties during the siege will be selected hereafter from the grade of field officers, and will be assisted by three officers of the rank of subalterns, to be taken from the division. The field officer thus designated, with his assistants, together with the guides heretofore directed to be selected from each division, whose business it will be to acquaint themselves with the locality of each of the works erected and in progress, will all report to Brig. Gen. F. J. Porter, director of the siege. The assistants to the field officer referred to, if not mounted, will be furnished with horses and equipments by the quartermaster's department on the requisition of the field officer, approved by the division commander.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 28, 1862—10.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Nothing of interest during the night. No firing on our right, where the work proceeded undisturbed. On the left the enemy fired a good deal, but hurt no one, nor was the work interrupted. Have just sent a heavy field battery to silence a gun or two of the enemy that have been impertinent this morning, but have hurt no one.

Weather has improved and we are making good progress.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 28, 1862—11 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Enemy have fired a good deal to-day, and have done no damage that I have heard of. Silenced one of their batteries near Wynn's Mill to-day. Commenced a battery to-night from right of first parallel to reach position for a heavy battery bearing upon water batteries and Gloucester. Regulars on the work. Enemy have been firing at them; do not know result. Mortar batteries progressing; will soon be ready to open. Would be glad to have the 30-pounder Parrotts in the works around Washington at once. Am very short of that excellent gun.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. HOOKER'S DIVISION, THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Camp Winfield Scott, near Yorktown, Va., April 28, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that the First Massachusetts Regiment and a part of the Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Regiment, in all 1,000 men, under Colonel Cowdin, occupied my advanced line of pickets until 6 o'clock this morning. The latter reports that the enemy displayed three or four regiments on his right a little before dark last night. About 11 o'clock he reports considerable musket firing between the advanced pickets on and near the Yorktown road.

I have nothing of importance to report of the supports of Batteries Nos. 2 and 3, under Colonel Johnson, Eighth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

U. S. STEAMER WACHUSETT,
York River, April 28, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Comdg. Army of the Potomac, Headquarters near Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: I have reason to believe that the enemy has withdrawn his long-range rifles from Yorktown and has placed them in the woods, to operate on this anchorage. The shells for the two 100-pounder vessels are nearly exhausted, and I am just now advised that a supply vessel may not be expected under three days, and to husband our shells in the mean time.

Should the enemy place rifles behind embankments 900 yards beyond the margin of the river our 11-inch guns could not reach them, their range for accurate firing being only 1,320 yards and short of 3,000 yards at extreme elevation, while the 100-pounders, mounted on extremely vulnerable vessels, with their machinery exposed and with crews as yet unpracticed, and short of shell though with abundance of shot, could do little toward displacing the enemy.

As the first duty of importance for the vessels will be to cover the landing of General Franklin's division, they must be kept intact and

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ready for it. I therefore think it proper to take a position somewhat farther outside my present anchorage, till I get a supply of ammunition or till General Franklin be ready to move, but in the mean time shall keep a steamer in position to protect the pontoons I see near Sand Box, and shall also throw a few 11-inch shells into Yorktown or Gloucester, when practicable, at night.

I should think that the pontoons at Sand Box indicate to the enemy the intention to land at Gloucester.

Very respectfully,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commander.

[Inclosure.]

U. S. STEAMER WACHUSETT,
York River, April 15, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, near Yorktown, Va.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: On the receipt of your telegram in regard to ranges, elevation, charges, &c., of the 100-pounder rifle on board the Sebago last evening, I required the commander of that vessel to furnish the information desired, but he informed me he had not the information, having just been appointed to that vessel.

I therefore beg to inclose to you the information I happen to possess on the subject, not only of the 100-pounder, but also of the 20 to 30 pounders, as ascertained by late official experiments, and I consider them quite reliable.

The shells you wished thrown into the working parties last evening drove them into the woods, and I have directed the Sebago to occupy a position from which she may operate whenever the enemy may reappear there.

I am much disappointed at the low ranges obtained last evening of our 11-inch cannon. That class of guns, though destructive when within 1,700 yards, should be made to yield to the 100 and 150 pounder rifle.

Respectfully, yours,

J. S. MISSROON,
Commander.

I am arranging at this moment to use the Sebago for annoying the enemy with her 100-pounder rifle at Gloucester and Yorktown.

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR QUARTERMASTER,
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, Va., April 28, 1862.

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: With regard to the operations of our department, as connected with this army, I have the honor to report that I believe that everything is working very satisfactorily.

We have had great difficulties to encounter, but they have been overcome, and the wants of the army have been, and are, supplied promptly. The best evidence of this is that there have been no complaints. Our army is stretched across the Peninsula, the right resting near Yorktown and the left near James River. All our supplies are drawn from the depots at Cheeseman's Creek and Ship Point, except for a small

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portion of the left wing, which are obtained from Fort Monroe. The only difficulties have arisen from the character of the country, which is nearly level and covered with a dense growth of pines. The surface of the country is sandy, resting on quicksand, and during rainy weather the roads are soon rendered impassable, empty wagons even sinking to their beds. Nearly every foot of the roads have been corduroyed; a great many of these roads have been badly made and are exceedingly rough, and the consequence is that the wear and tear of our transportation have been very great. Large working parties are now on them, and, if we should have any more good weather, they will soon be very much improved.

I find that mules are the only animals fit for this rough service. Our horse teams suffer severely, and I would recommend that hereafter no more horse teams be provided for our armies, no matter in what part of the country they be serving, as mules are far more serviceable and economical.

Our main depots are at Fort Monroe, Cheeseman's Creek, and Ship Point. I have placed Captain Sawtelle in charge of the depot at the fort, assisted by Captain Thomas, and Colonel Ingalls in charge of that at Cheeseman's Creek, assisted by Captain Rankin, acting assistant quartermaster, Captain Pinner, brigade quartermaster, and Captain Wagner, brigade quartermaster. The latter is in charge of the clothing and camp and garrison equipage. The bulk of the clothing, &c., is kept at Old Point, as I do not desire to accumulate any great amount of stores here, as it would embarrass our movements when we advance.

Ship Point is at the mouth of Poquosin River, and is used exclusively as the depot for subsistence stores. Cheeseman's Creek depot is about 1 mile to the west of Ship Point, at the junction of Cheeseman's and Goose Creeks, and is used for forage, quartermaster stores, and camp and garrison equipage. This depot is about 4 miles from headquarters, and the supplies from it have to be transported a distance of 3½ to 7 miles.

There is a small depot on Back Creek, from which General F. J. Porter's division is supplied, the distance of land transportation being about the same as from Cheeseman's Creek.

There is another small creek (Wormley's) which empties into the York River about 2½ miles below Yorktown. This creek has 4½ feet of water, and heavy ordnance is sent into it in barges. It is, however, under the fire of the enemy's guns, and can only be used at night. Yesterday one of our barges, loaded with 400 13-inch shells, was delayed until daylight, when the enemy opened fire on it and burst a 100-pound shell in it and sunk it. The shells will be saved. I send you a map of the scene of our operations, with the roads plainly delineated.*

I beg here to state that I have received the most cordial and efficient assistance from the officers of our department in charge of the depots at Fort Monroe and Cheeseman's Creek, and that Colonel Crosman and Major Belger, as well as Colonel Rucker, have filled all my requisitions with the greatest promptness. I feel under many obligations to them for it.

I forward you herewith a copy of a circular which I have issued to the officers of our department on duty with this army.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STEWART VAN VLIET,
Brigadier-General and Quartermaster.

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*Not found.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
April 30—10 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Opened upon Yorktown wharf to-day with Battery No. 1; drove off all their schooners and put a stop to all operations in that quarter. Result quite satisfactory. Work on new batteries progressing rapidly. Condition of roads renders it extremely difficult to get up the heavy guns and ammunition. Raining again to-day. Our first parallel now secure and flanks well covered. Enemy has fired considerably to-day, but I have not learned that any one was injured

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 119. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., Ap'l* 30, 1862.

Paragraph XI of General Orders, No. 102, current series, prescribing flags to designate the various headquarters, is amended as follows:

For the headquarters of the Cavalry Reserve—yellow flag, with two blue stripes, 6 inches in width, crossing diagonally.

First Brigade, Cavalry Reserve—yellow flag with a blue star in the center.

Second Brigade, Cavalry Reserve—yellow flag with two blue stars in the center.

For the Artillery Reserve—red flag with a white star in the center.

For the brigade of regular infantry—blue flag with a white star in the center.

All the above flags to be 6 feet long and 5 feet wide.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 129. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., Ap'l* 30, '62.

* * * * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. Philip Kearny is assigned to the command of the Third Division of the Third Army Corps, in place of Brig. Gen. C. S. Hamilton, relieved.

By order of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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The number of men composing the Army of the Potomac on the 30th day of April, 1862.

	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate on special duty, sick, and in arrest.	Aggregate absent.	Total aggregate present and absent.
General staff, Engineers and Engineer Brigade, cavalry division, escort to headquarters, and provost guards.	13,787	798	2,072	16,657
Second Corps (General Sumner)	19,054	887	2,061	22,002
Third Corps (General Heintzelman)	34,633	2,009	3,068	39,710
Fourth Corps (General Keyes)	33,586	1,886	4,089	39,561
Franklin's division	11,332	270	846	12,448
	112,392	5,850	12,136	130,378

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., December 31, 1862.

It is hereby certified that the preceding statement is accurately compiled from the morning report of the Army of the Potomac of the 30th day of April, 1862, signed by Major-General McClellan and his assistant adjutant-general, Seth Williams, and now on file in this office.*

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, May 1, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Your call for Parrott guns from Washington alarms me, chiefly because it argues indefinite procrastination. Is anything to be done?

A. LINCOLN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 1, 1862—9 p. m.

General E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Left Wing:

There are indications on our right front of the enemy's attempting something to-night or early in the morning. Please have Richardson ready to move an hour before day if wanted. I do not ask you to keep a good lookout, because I know you are always on the alert.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 1, 1862.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER:

Have you provided the field batteries Lansing asks for? I will have

* See Series I, Vol. V, p. 13.

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the regulars ready before daybreak and some of Hunt's batteries harnessed up. Shall I do more than this?

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS,
May 1, 1862.

Col. A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Porter's division has about 11,400 enlisted men for duty; Hooker's about 9,450 for duty, excluding the regiment stationed at Ship Point, and Hamilton's about 8,900 for duty. In this estimate the artillery and cavalry of each division are excluded.

General Porter has 100 men on daily duty under Major Myer.

General Hamilton has 130 men on daily duty at these headquarters and at the two saw mills, and General Hooker has 1,500 at work daily on the Yorktown and Hampton road, and it will require several more days to finish it.

CHAUNCEY McKEEVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 1, 1862—11 p. m. (Received May 3, 1862—11.30 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Our work is going on very well. The batteries of the first parallel will be ready before the guns and mortars can be got to their places. Enemy fires a great deal; hits very few, thanks to our trenches. He can no longer use his wharf on York River. Our rifle pits are rightly advancing. Indications of a brush to-night. The time for opening fire is now rapidly approaching. Enemy still in force and working hard.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1862—12 m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Enemy fired continually during the night, doing but little damage. Our rifle pits on our left advanced considerably during the night and somewhat on the right. Our batteries being rapidly completed, notwithstanding the enemy's fire, which is quite warm. To-day our No. 1 is firing with good effect. Weather favorable to-day.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 2, 1862—9 p. m. (Received May 4, 1862—9.30 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The enemy's fire very hot to-day and rained almost continuously. Have heard of but 2 killed. It seems quite probable, almost certain,

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that one of his 8-inch guns burst this afternoon. No. 1 has been firing to-day with good effect. The weather has been so favorable to-day that we have made unusual progress, not only in construction of trenches and batteries, but also in landing and bringing up guns and ammunition. I had a very satisfactory interview to-day with the new commodore of the flotilla. You have not much longer to wait.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 3, 1862—10 a. m. (Received May 3, 1862—4.15 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Enemy unusually quiet last night and this morning. Our rifle pits pushed forward considerably last night. Most satisfactory progress being made in arming the batteries. It now seems certain that one of his large guns burst yesterday. No. 1 seems to give good results. The bursting of its shells in town appears to cause a disagreeable excitement.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

CAMP WINFIELD SCOTT, *May* 3, 1862.
(Received May 4, 1862—8 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I regret to learn that Colonel Campbell, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, has been placed in arrest by Major-General McDowell for endeavoring to comply with my positive order to him to report with his regiment for duty at this place. This regiment was never assigned to General McDowell's corps, but was detailed by me to General Keyes' corps. I, of course, expected it to follow me as soon as transportation could be provided, and am not a little surprised to learn that my instructions have been interfered with and my force diminished by the action of the commanding officer of the Department of the Rappahannock, in violation of General Orders, No. 29, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, March 22, 1862.

Under these circumstances I beg the immediate interposition of the War Department to relieve from arrest a meritorious officer, against whom there appears to be no complaint save that of obedience to the orders of his rightful commander. I also ask that the regiment, as well as the First New Jersey, Colonel Wyndham, may be permitted to join the army under my command without further delay.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS LEFT WING, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, May 3, 1862.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I believe it will be advisable to bring Richardson's divis-

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ion farther to the front in order to strengthen my long line. Will you speak to the commanding general about this and let me hear from you?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., THIRD CORPS, *Camp Winfield Scott, near Yorktown, May* 3, 1862.

Pursuant to instructions from headquarters of the army and of the corps I hereby assume command of the division composed of Generals Jameson's, Birney's, and Berry's brigades, and of Thompson's, Beam's, and Randolph's batteries.

P. KEARNY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 133. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., May* 3, '62.

* * * * * * *

IV. Brig. Gen. F. E. Patterson, volunteer service, having reported to the commanding general, in obedience to the instructions of the War Department, is assigned to duty in Hooker's division, Third Army Corps, and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862—1.30 p. m.

General FRANKLIN,
Cheeseman's Creek:

What progress are you making in embarking your command? The commanding general desires you to move up to Yorktown as soon as you are embarked.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 4.
(Received 12 m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Yorktown is in our possession.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862—9 a. m. (Received 4.15 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have the ramparts; have guns, ammunition, camp equipage, &c. Hold the entire line of his works, which the engineers report as being very strong. I have thrown all my cavalry and horse artillery in pursuit, supported by infantry. I move Franklin and as much more as I can transport by water up to West Point to-day. No time shall be lost. Gunboats have gone up York River. I omitted to state that Gloucester is also in our possession. I shall push the enemy to the wall.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862—11.20 a. m. (Received 4.15 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

An inspection just made shows that the rebels abandoned in their works at Yorktown two 3-inch rifle cannon, two 4½-inch rifle cannon, sixteen 32-pounders, six 42-pounders, nineteen 8-inch columbiads, four 9-inch Dahlgrens, one 10-inch columbiad, one 10-inch mortar, one 8-inch siege howitzer, with carriages and implements complete, each piece supplied with 76 rounds of ammunition. On the ramparts there are also four magazines, which have not yet been examined. This does not include the guns left at Gloucester Point and other works to our left.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., May 4, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Yorktown:

Accept my cordial congratulations upon the success at Yorktown, and I am rejoiced to hear that your forces are in active pursuit. Please furnish me with the details as far as they are acquired, and I hope soon to hail your arrival at Richmond.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862—7 p. m. (Received May 5, 8.40 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Our cavalry and horse artillery came up with the enemy's rear guard in their intrenchments about 2 miles this side of Williamsburg. A brisk fight ensued. Just as my aide left, Smith's division of infantry arrived on the ground and I presume carried his works, though I have not yet heard. The enemy's rear is strong, but I have force enough up there to answer all purposes. We have thus far seventy-one heavy guns, large; large amounts of tents, ammunition, &c. All along the

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lines their works prove to have been most formidable, and I am now fully satisfied of the correctness of the course I have pursued. The success is brilliant, and you may rest assured that its effects will be of the greatest importance. There shall be no delay in following up the rebels. The rebels have been guilty of the most murderous and barbarous conduct in placing torpedoes within the abandoned works near wells and springs; near flag-staffs, magazines, telegraph offices, in carpet-bags, barrels of flour, &c. Fortunately we have not lost many men in this manner—some 4 or 5 killed and perhaps a dozen wounded. I shall make the prisoners remove them at their own peril.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER:

Please have Richardson's and Sedgwick's divisions under arms at once and await further orders. Have the baggage wagons left with guards to follow.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER:

The enemy has abandoned Yorktown, leaving all their heavy guns, ammunition, tents, &c.

General Stoneman is just starting out on the Yorktown road toward Williamsburg, with all our cavalry, four batteries of light artillery, and will shortly be followed by a division of infantry. He is to push on to Williamsburg, and your command, which goes on toward Williamsburg, will probably meet this command near the Half-way House.

You will please hold the remainder of your command in readiness to march at short notice. It is not supposed that there are more than a few regiments this side of Williamsburg.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER,
Commanding Division:

Stoneman found five or six regiments of infantry, two of cavalry, and a battery in intrenchments near Williamsburg. Several cavalry charges, in all of which we gained the advantage; could do nothing against intrenchments. Four divisions of infantry now there, and the works no doubt carried an hour or so ago. Will inform you when I hear further. You will probably move by water.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

Brigadier-General HEINTZELMAN:

Please have Kearny's division ready to move at once.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 4, 1862.

Brig. Gen. FITZ JOHN PORTER:

The general desires that some troops be thrown over to Gloucester as soon as means for crossing the river are sent up.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

Brig. Gen. FITZ JOHN PORTER:

Please prepare to leave the smallest possible garrison in Yorktown and Gloucester and hold the rest of your division ready to move and to fight.

By order:

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

Brigadier-General SEDGWICK:

General McClellan directs that you move to the vicinity of Yorktown to-morrow morning, with all your transportation, to be there at 9 o'clock if possible. Camp near the first parallel in front of it and there await further orders.

Give particular directions to your men not to leave camp; it is dangerous going about Yorktown until the torpedoes are removed.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Left Wing:

General McClellan desires that you move at least two, and if necessary three, divisions to the front on the road toward Williamsburg, until you get to where the firing now is, or abreast of it, if it is on another road, and try to turn the enemy if possible.

Communicate frequently.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

General E. D. KEYES, *Lee's Mill:*

The commanding general directs that you move with the part of your corps remaining to Williamsburg to-morrow by the most direct road. Please give directions to have all the wagons and baggage and supplies go forward with the troops, as well as the wagons of the divisions that went forward to-day.

Please answer.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 4, 1862.

General SUMNER or General SMITH:

Push on after the enemy in front of Smith. General Hooker is *en route* for Half-way House and will be in position to cut off their retreat.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 4, 1862.

General MCCLELLAN:

The enemy is reported to be in strong force in front of me. I am going to engage him unless I get other orders.

I would suggest that the forces at Lee's Mill and on our right be ordered to advance to add support.

WM. F. SMITH,
Brigadier-General.

MAY 4, 1862.

General WILLIAM F. SMITH:

How far in front of you and about how strong is the enemy? Do not engage him until ordered by me, as I am making other arrangements to cut him off.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 4, 1862.

Com. SMITH, *Commanding Fleet:*

I learn that a large part of the rebel force marched to Bigler's Mill, on the York River, last night, to take sail from there to West Point. It is of the first importance to my operations that some of your gunboats hurry up to West Point to destroy the transportation and report to me the state of affairs.

Franklin's division will be ready to go up under convoy of the other gunboats as soon as I can hear from the river.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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MAY 4, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

Bigler's Wharf is burning. There are no batteries for 12 miles up the river. I have sent a steamer to burn the railroad bridge over Pamunkey River.

SMITH.

MAY 4, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

Steamer Chocura has returned from West Point. No obstructions or batteries on the river. No guns or troops at West Point. White flag at that place and at other points on the river. The frames of two large vessels building at West Point.

W. SMITH.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
May 4, 1862.

Major-General WOOL, *Fort Monroe:*

The President desires to know whether your force is in condition for a sudden movement, if one should be ordered, under your command. Please have it in readiness.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 135. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Winf. Scott, near Yorkt'n, Va., May* 4, '62.

* * * * * * *

VI. Brig. Gen. James H. Van Alen is appointed military governor and commandant of Yorktown and Gloucester. The Forty-fourth New York Volunteers, Colonel Stryker, will form the garrison of Yorktown, and Colonel Comfort's regiment (known as the *Enfans Perdus*) the garrison of Gloucester. These regiments will report accordingly.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS.
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 5, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

My infantry are ready to march at any moment, with provisions, ammunition, &c. I have one field battery ready for the field. If I had horses, I could fit out three fine batteries. I have also several squadrons of dragoons ready to move. If I knew whether it was for land or sea service I could answer more definitely. If for sea service, there would be no delay. If for land service, in consequence of having given to General McClellan much of our transportation, we are deficient in that particular, and it might delay me a day or two.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

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FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 5, 1862—10 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have made inquiries since my dispatch of this a. m. The quartermaster at this post has no horses or trains to spare from the Potomac Army. Major-General McClellan has called on me to place two regiments at Stony Creek Court-House, or Lee's Mill, to protect his rear for the time being. I have deemed proper to give you this information, in order that you may perfectly understand the position of General McClellan.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, THIRD CORPS,
Camp Jameson, May 5, 1862—4 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Under a misconstruction of the orders of General Heintzelman I have advanced to a point on the Williamsburg road 3 miles beyond Yorktown, where I am encamped and awaiting orders from General Heintzelman, which he will send me (or orders from your headquarters.)

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. KEARNY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 5, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Raining hard now and most of the night; roads consequently infamous. Enemy still at Williamsburg. Heavy firing now going on. The weather has delayed Franklin to-day. Hope to overcome all obstacles yet and throw a sufficient force up the York to cut the enemy's line of retreat. Several of our batteries are actually stuck fast in the mud. The men have done all that could be done. No signs of cessation of rain.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER:

The general commanding directs that you occupy Lee's Mill at once, and push forward a reconnaissance with cavalry, two brigades of infantry, and three batteries on the road toward Grove's Wharf and the Half-way House, having the roads and bridges put in order as rapidly as possible. Send the cavalry on in the direction of Grove's Wharf, until they ascertain where the enemy is, and the infantry and artillery

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as far as the Half-way House, directing the commander to send back frequent reports during the day.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS, *May* 5.

WILLIAM B. FRANKLIN:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to say that he desires you to move up the river so as to be at your landing at daybreak, according to the instructions he gave you to-day. Sedgwick's division will follow you as soon as transports can be supplied. Richardson will follow, and all be landed at the point where you disembark, and all will of course be under your command.

The pontoon train will be sent up to Yorktown to-night.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Sunday, May 5, 1862—2.43 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: We are at Lebanon, stopped by General Sumner's orders. The direct road in front of us is impassable for artillery, but I have sent Lieutenant Bowen, who reports a good road through the fields leading into it a mile forward. The bridge at Skiff Creek is partially burned, but was extinguished by Lieutenant Custer, who burned his hands in doing it. The enemy retreated on that road, and it is reported they have two pieces of artillery three-quarters of a mile beyond the bridge. I can turn the head of the creek and the artillery and come into that road to Williamsburg 3 miles from here. I don't think the report about the infantry this morning was correct. I think we have only met the cavalry rear guard. The report, however, came from Captain Chambliss. Lieutenant Custer exchanged shots with the cavalry at the bridge. Regiments camped here last night, and the rebels have been making such changes in the brigades as to show that the Southern troops are getting anxious to get back to their homes. I await orders 1½ miles beyond here.

WM. F. SMITH,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—Our road through the fort was lined with torpedoes, but happily none went off. There is a heavy black smoke to our left. We have taken 4 deserters and 1 prisoner, besides provisions, arms, and stores of various kinds of no account.

As I don't know which road you may wish me to take from here, I had better probably await orders here in place of going on to avoid the bad place in front of us.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1862.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER:

General Van Alen has been notified that you are in charge of affairs at Yorktown and its vicinity.

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I have just received information from General McClellan. Everything was quiet when the messenger left. He says if the regulars have not broken up their camp, and the other troops which have been placed under your command to-night, that all but one brigade might remain in the camps, but if they had broken up their camps and taken position in front of Yorktown they had better remain.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, May 5, 1862.

Col. R. INGALLS, *Yorktown:*

Send immediately to General Sedgwick and General Richardson the following:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, May 5, 1862.

General I. B. RICHARDSON, General JOHN SEDGWICK:

Move immediately with your divisions toward Williamsburg, and continue marching until you reach the front, or receive further orders. Take two days' rations in the haversacks of the troops.

Move rapidly, the wagons to follow.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Acknowledge receipt of this message, and telegraph report of receipt of their messages by Generals Sedgwick and Richardson.

R. B. MARCY.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1862.

General GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Colonel Colburn's two dispatches just received and all the orders issued, viz: Sedgwick's and Richardson's divisions to move at once toward Williamsburg until ordered to stop. General Porter (F. J.) to hold his division, Hunt's Artillery Reserve, the regulars, and Rush's and Gregg's cavalry in front of Yorktown.

Very respectfully,

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

P. S.—I have ordered General Franklin not to move up the river till further orders. Is this right?

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 5, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I sent by mail a copy of Colonel Ingalls' dispatch to me about transports. The only additional information I have been able to obtain is the following extract from a message from General Marcy:

In the absence of General McClellan at the front I have to inform you that the gen-

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eral has ordered all the available transports to carry troops to West Point, and a part of them have started from Cheeseman's Creek. Your dispatch will be laid before the general this evening. I have not yet received anything further from headquarters. To-morrow I can have, subject to your order, the following vessels, which can be unloaded here, viz: Steamers Robert Morris, New Haven, New York, and City of Richmond, which, with the Ocean Queen, would transport 3,500 troops. Six schooners will also be unloaded, which could be towed by these steamers.

If I receive any further information from General McClellan during the night I will communicate it.

JOHN TUCKER,
Assistant Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Williamsburg, May 5, 1862—1.45 p. m.
(Received May 6—6 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Mr. Tucker's telegram relative to the vessels was received after Franklin's division had embarked and on the way to West Point. Another division goes in the morning, and the last is absolutely necessary to support the first. This movement is of the greatest importance. I will release the vessels just as soon as the troops are landed. Nothing new except what I told you in my last dispatch.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Some of the main works of the enemy are in our possession and I am pushing troops forward, but the roads are horrible.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Commanding Third Corps:

GENERAL: General McClellan directs me to say that in addition to the instructions sent you by General Sweitzer that some troops will be kept in reserve at the Half-way House, to be sent to you if necessary, but he does not think you will require them, and he will probably have use for them at other points. He does not wish to have you attack at daylight unless you receive orders to do so.

He desires you to open communication as early as possible between here and your headquarters.

It is probable that Hancock's success this afternoon will at least check the enemy.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 5, 1862.

General SMITH:

Ayres and Mott have been ordered to join you at once.

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Brooks is ordered to be with you by daylight, and a staff officer during the night, to post the general fully about the condition of things.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BIVOUAC IN FIELD, NEAR WILLIAMSBURG,
May 5, 1862—9.40 p. m.

General W. B. FRANKLIN:

GENERAL: I found great confusion here, but all is now right.

Hancock made a magnificent charge, taking 150 prisoners—killing as many more. I now feel safe.

Have ordered Sedgwick to fall back at daylight to Yorktown, there to embark under your orders.

Please push your movement as rapidly as possible, securing the landing beyond all doubt, and being cautious though bold in your advance. Keep me fully informed. I think the enemy will evacuate during the night; if not, I can probably beat him. I will, as soon as matters are developed here, push up Porter's, the regulars, and other divisions, joining you myself as soon as I feel safe here.

We have now a tangent hit. I arrived in time.

Ever, yours,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Since the above was written it is ascertained that Joe Johnston is in command in front beyond a doubt.

A. V. COLBURN.

HEADQUARTERS FORT MONROE,
May 6, 1862. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The desponding tone of Major-General McClellan's dispatch of last evening more than surprises me. He says his entire force is undoubtedly considerably inferior to that of the rebels. If such is the fact I am still more surprised that they should have abandoned Yorktown.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 6, 1862.

General GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, *Williamsburg:*

No order has been given to deprive you of any transportation. Neither has it been contemplated to deprive you of any, but only to employ any surplus not required for your use.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 6, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN, U. S. A.,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward herewith copies of letters

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from the Surgeon-General in relation to the care and transportation of the sick at Yorktown. The Secretary of War directs that the arrangements therein proposed may be carried into effect.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, April 25, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I inclose herewith the copy of a letter addressed to the Secretary of War in relation to the care and transportation of the wounded at Yorktown, &c.

The arrangements there proposed have been approved by the Secretary, and I have therefore to request that the necessary orders may be given to the generals commanding the Army of the Potomac and the Department of Virginia to detach 1,000 of the wounded to be transported to New York.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. C. WOOD,
Acting Surgeon-General.

[Subinclosure.]

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, April 18, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge your communication of yesterday, and have to state that it will give me pleasure to co-operate cordially with the Sanitary Commission in devising and executing an efficient plan of operations for the care and relief of the sick and wounded of the army before Yorktown.

There is a concurrence of views between Dr. Van Buren and myself.

It is proposed to place at the disposal of the Sanitary Commission a steamboat of requisite accommodations, to be furnished with all the necessary conveniences, and to place on her such comforts, bedding, &c., as the commission may have available; all deficiencies to be supplied by the Medical Bureau. The steamboat to proceed to Fort Monroe and await events.

Other steamboats should also be held at Old Point Comfort for the reception and transportation of 2,500 wounded men. Accommodations for the immediate reception of 3,000 wounded men have been made, and the hospitals reported ready. The medical director, Army of the Potomac, has been directed by telegraph to send the wounded to the following points, to avoid a retransfer:

Washington	1,500
Georgetown	400
Alexandria	400
Baltimore	700
Total	3,000

In addition to this, accommodations are prepared for 600 at Philadelphia, 400 at Annapolis.

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I would recommend that instructions be given to send 1,000 of the sick and wounded, to be selected with reference to their condition, to the city of New York.

This gives accommodations for 5,000 men, to be modified by the event of battle and other circumstances.

In connection with the above, I have to state that the medical director at Fort Monroe has been directed to vacate his hospitals in the event of battle and receive all the badly wounded who would be injured by transportation.

Respectfully submitted.

R. C. WOOD,
Acting Surgeon-General.

FORT MONROE,
Tuesday Evening, May 6, 1862—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

The President, with Secretary of the Treasury, reached here a few minutes ago, having left Washington last evening, and we are rejoiced to learn the success of your recent operations. I find here a copy of your dispatch of this day's date, and in answer to inquiry state that you are authorized to inscribe the names of battles upon regimental banners at your discretion. We shall remain here a day or two, and will be glad to confer with you to-morrow and render you any assistance.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. D. KEYES,
Commanding Fourth Corps:

General McClellan directs that you order a brigade to march at 11 o'clock a. m. to-morrow, and proceed to the point marked A on the inclosed map.* Four companies of cavalry will be ordered to go over the road marked B C, there to examine Barrett's Ferry and the crossing D over the Chickahominy, returning before night to the point A.

The brigade will probably remain at the point A for two or three days.

Please arrange for supplying them with rations accordingly.

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 6, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Corps:

General McClellan directs that you return with your headquarters to the vicinity of Yorktown. You will order General Richardson to return

*Not found.

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to camp near that place and prepare to embark. Further orders will be given you before the embarkation of your headquarters and Richardson's division takes place.

Sedgwick has been put on special service, soon to join you.

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

From McCLELLAN'S. (Received May 6, 1862.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Washington:*

SIR: McDowell and Banks should advance promptly on Richmond to make diversion in favor of the advance of this army, now energetically pursuing the enemy.

The Galena and a few gunboats should pass up the James River to prevent the enemy from embarking from their position near Williamsburg. They now have ten steamboats transporting their retiring forces. The enemy fight well.

WM. SPRAGUE.

WILLIAMSBURG, *May* 7, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch of yesterday received. I have sent out a strong advance guard this morning to endeavor to make its way over the bad roads and ascertain the movements of the enemy. Until the roads improve both in front and rear no large body of troops can be moved. I dare not leave my command in the present state of affairs, so that it is really impossible for me to go to the rear to meet the President and yourself. I sent cavalry to Jamestown yesterday, who found the battery abandoned, magazine burned up, gun-carriages burned, guns still there. I am satisfied that we have one or more desperate battles to fight before we gain possession of Richmond, and that we shall need to employ all our skill, caution, and means to gain our ends. We will probably have to meet their concentrated forces. I have seen as yet no demonstration of Union feeling worth mentioning.

If it is a possible thing for the Galena and other gunboats to move up James River we would be materially assisted. I learn that one of the enemy's principal gunboats is at Norfolk; the other in Richmond. I allude to the Jamestown and Yorktown. It is stated that the country is destitute of persons and the necessities of life. I would invite the attention of the Secretary of Treasury to the subject of opening trade.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 7, 1862.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH:

SIR: Major-General McClellan telegraphs that he has ascertained by a reconnaissance that the battery at Jamestown has been abandoned, and he again requests that gunboats may be sent up the James River.

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If you have tolerable confidence that you can successfully contend with the Merrimac without the help of the Galena and two accompanying gunboats, send the Galena and two gunboats up the James River at once. Please report your action on this to me at once. I shall be found either at General Wool's headquarters or on board the Miami.

Your obedient servant,

A. LINCOLN.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 7, 1862—midnight.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

Your dispatch received, and I am rejoiced at the success of your operations. An expedition under command of Captain Rodgers will, under express orders, be sent up the James River to-night, consisting of the Galena and two gunboats, for the purpose of co-operating with you. They start as soon as pilots can be found. Is there anything else you want?

EDWIN M. STANTON.

FORT MONROE, *May* 7, 1862.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War:

We have had no news of any operations of the army beyond Williamsburg to-day, and no details of the killed and wounded in the late engagement. You may telegraph McDowell to get his force well in hand for movement, and push on his bridges to as rapid completion as possible. It is not yet perfectly clear what the movement of the force lately in Yorktown will be.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1862.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE STONEMAN:

We have reason to believe that parties of the enemy's cavalry are in the woods to the right of the main road to Bigler's Mill; they yesterday took 2 or 3 of our men prisoners.

Please watch your right flank carefully.

General Keim will be ordered to send some infantry and cavalry from the point A toward the right to break up that position and endeavor to catch them. Troopers will be sent out from this vicinity for the same purpose.

[A. V. COLBURN,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—It is too late now for General Keim to make that movement to-day. Cavalry will be sent out from here on the road to Bigler's Mill.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Winfield Scott, May 7, 1862.

Col. GEO. A. H. BLAKE,
Commanding Brigade of Cavalry:

COLONEL: The commanding general directs that you send immediately a squadron of cavalry, under an efficient and prudent officer, to Mulberry Point, on the James River side, and such other points on Mulberry Island as were occupied by the enemy, to ascertain the nature of the works and operations of the enemy in that quarter. It will be ascertained if guns or other property were abandoned by the enemy.

It is desired that you procure a guide in Yorktown to accompany the troops, if possible.

A map is sent you containing all the information in possession of the topographical bureau at these headquarters with regard to the region in question.

The duty involved will require circumspection on the part of the officer to guard against any surprise, and is to be executed with expedition and dispatch.

On his return the officer will make a detailed report of his expedition.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MAY 7 [?], 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Headquarters near Williamsburg:

Commander Rodgers, with three gunboats, started this morning up the James River. If you can aid them any way with supplies, in case they run short, it may be well to be in condition to do so. A rebel tugboat from Norfolk came over and surrendered to us this morning. They report that for three days Norfolk is being evacuated, the navy-yard being dismantled, the troops going some to Richmond and others north to join Jackson. The Yorktown, Jamestown, and two other rebel gunboats are up the James River, and the Merrimac will probably try to get up to-day.

An attack on Sewell's Point batteries will be made to-day by Commodore Goldsborough and General Wool.

Report anything you need. The deserters say there is great consternation in Richmond and Norfolk. The machinery of the navy-yard, and all the cotton, tobacco, and oil are being shipped to Weldon and Raleigh.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE POTOMAC,
Williamsburg, May 7, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Franklin's and Sedgwick's divisions are near West Point, landed, and as I am informed were engaged with the enemy during most of the day, with good apparent results. I am pushing up re-enforcements to him as rapidly as possible. I sent out Stoneman this morning with cavalry, artillery, and infantry to reconnoiter the country along the

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Lower Chickahominy; they have not yet returned. I have had a large force repairing roads so that I can pass artillery over them. My own movements to-morrow will depend upon Stoneman's report to-night. I regret that my presence with the army at this particular time is of such vast importance that I cannot leave to confer with the President and yourself, but I dare not leave for one hour. The enemy were badly whipped, but will probably fight again. Our men behaved nobly and are in excellent heart and spirits.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1862.

General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

It is absolutely necessary to keep our supplies afloat, and land them only as they are wanted, until our base of operations is fixed at West Point or above. Our depot was at first at Old Point, then at Cheeseman's Creek, and now at Yorktown. Franklin's and Sedgwick's divisions have just landed near West Point, and are now fighting under the guns of the gunboats. Porter's division is rapidly embarking to re-enforce them, and will be off to-night. These frequent embarkations of large masses of troops, which I anticipated, has compelled me to retain the water transportation. I can dispense with a large portion of it as soon as our final base of operations is fixed. I have about 4,000 sick and wounded to send off. The vessels taken away and sent up the Rappahannock have embarrassed me. The Ocean Queen will be dispatched as you direct.

STEWART VAN VLIET,
Quartermaster.

EN ROUTE, *May* 7, 1862—12.30 o'clock.

Captain SUYDAM,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Started at 11 a. m. There is a space of 1¼ wide—about 1½; on the right side there is grain and good pasturage; on the left hand a plowed field. One heavy gun found. At the commencement of it it is bad, improves, and then alternates between good and bad. One half mile of wood on both sides. Two heavy guns found. Road bad; two wagons left in road. From this point a contraband said they marched rapidly. The Second Rhode Island and Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers ahead about one hour. Another large gun, 42-pounder, found 3½ miles. Firing heard distinctly ahead a little to the left.

Yours, very truly,

WM. H. KEIM,
Brigadier-General.

Memorandum.

The above is just received from Brigadier-General Keim. The orderly waits. Has General McClellan any orders concerning matters in front to send to General Keim?

Respectfully,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE POTOMAC,
McClellan's, May 8, 1862.

M. S. LATHAM and H. M. RICE, *Fort Monroe:*

On Monday, at 5 p. m., General McClellan arrived on the ground. When he came our left had been turned; Hooker driven back, badly cut up, and a concentration of heavy force was made to cut off Hancock, who had turned the enemy's left at 1 p. m., and who, although he had begged for re-enforcements the entire day, got none. The first order given by General McClellan was to send sufficient force to Hancock, which saved us from sad disaster. General McClellan had ordered a reconnaissance, and never dreamed that Sumner, Heintzelman, and Keyes would bring on a fight. For God's sake make no major-generals without knowing the truth. There was more stupidity expended on that day and more sacrifice of life than many would want to hear of. Our men behaved well.

Yours,

NAGLEE.

CAMP, NINETEEN MILES FROM WILLIAMSBURG,
May 8, 1862—3 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have possession of New Kent Court-House, Cumberland, and White House. My troops are closing well up to-day and drawing supplies from Eltham. Reconnaissances are being pushed. One of our parties of cavalry was within 6 miles of Bottom's Bridge yesterday. I am very glad to hear that we have Norfolk. Nothing from Galena, except that she is again afloat and has gone up the river.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS,
Williamsburg, May 8, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your two telegrams received. I have sent cavalry to Jamestown to endeavor to communicate with Rodgers. General Stoneman is some 14 or 15 miles in advance, and may be able to communicate with Franklin to-night. I shall start Smith's division this afternoon, and I hope three others to-morrow morning. The difficulties arising from the roads are very great, but I will manage to surmount them. If I can effect the junction with Franklin I shall consider our next step gained. It is a delicate matter, but it can be done. I think that the time has arrived to bring all the troops in Eastern Virginia into perfect co-operation. I expect to fight another and very severe battle before reaching Richmond and with all the troops the Confederates can bring together, and therefore should have all the re-enforcements that can be given me.

It is of course possible that the enemy may abandon Richmond without a battle, but we have no right to take that for granted. All the troops on the Rappahannock, and if possible those on the Shenandoah, should take part in the approaching battle. We ought immediately to

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concentrate everything and not run the risk of engaging a desperate enemy with inferior force. All minor considerations should be thrown to one side and all our energies and means directed toward the defeat of Johnston's army in front of Richmond.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WILLIAMSBURG. (Received May 8, 1862.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have absolutely no information in detail of the country in our front and are obliged to grope our way. I would respectfully and earnestly urge that the Chief of Topographical Engineers be directed to lend me eight or ten officers junior to General Humphreys to move with this army until we have reached Richmond. Such a detail would save us many days in time and many lives. I cannot urge it too strongly.

All goes well.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WILLIAMSBURG. (Received May 8, 1862.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have just received intelligence that our advance guard is in communication with General Franklin's command. The inhabitants report the force in front of General Franklin as being from 80,000 to 120,000 strong. They are in full retreat on the line of the Chickahominy, where it is said that they intend to make a stand. Franklin's division conducted itself most gallantly. I move with my command to-morrow.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WILLIAMSBURG. (Received May 8, 1862—11.15 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I sent a party of cavalry to Jamestown to-day at 12 o'clock. They remained until three-quarters of an hour after sunset. The officer reports that three side-wheel steamers passed up the river. He was informed by persons there that they were the Yorktown, Patrick Henry, and some other they did not know. Another party on proceeding some distance down the river saw the three steamers as they passed close inshore, and each bore the Confederate flag. I have heard nothing of Captain Rodgers. Can you give me any information as to his movements? When did he leave Fort Monroe?

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Williamsburg, May 8, 1862.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE STONEMAN,
Chief of Cavalry:

General Franklin was yesterday attacked by the enemy. He repulsed them handsomely, holding his original position at all and advanced positions at some points. He was unable to follow up his success for want of transportation.

Sedgwick's infantry has landed, and transportation and forage are going up rapidly.

In attempting to communicate with General Franklin you must be exceedingly cautious.

The four newspaper reporters taken yesterday will be turned over to the provost-marshal-general, who will keep them in close custody until further orders.

What was the strength of the enemy's rear guard you saw yesterday and what became of it?

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILLIAMSBURG,
Thursday, May 8, 1862—6 p. m.

Brigadier-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief Top. Eng'r, Army of the Potomac, Williamsburg, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I have to-day executed your instructions, directing me to state "whether it was practicable to communicate from General Sumner's headquarters to the main left-hand road, where General Heintzelman and General Hooker passed a portion of last Monday night."

I crossed from Whitaker's house, then General Sumner's headquarters, to the left-hand road; about one-third of the distance is open country, and tolerably level; the remaining two-thirds is rather densely wooded, surface more undulating; infantry and cavalry can now cross it without difficulty. The whole distance is 1¼ miles. Course from Whitaker's by compass is southwest. This brought me about 300 yards from the edge of the woods. Capt. McKeever, assistant adjutant-general on General Heintzelman's staff, informs me that General Heintzelman bivouacked that night 20 to 30 yards from edge of woods.

It is proper to add that on Monday night the communication across was undoubtedly more difficult than it is now, as we have since then had three clear days, but that it could have been effected at that time is the opinion of your very obedient servant,

W. R. PALMER,
Major Topographical Engineers, Bvt. Lieut. Col., U. S. Army.

HDQRS. CAMP OF THE ADVANCE GUARD,
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *May* 8, 1862.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my advance guard, consisting of the Sixth U. S. Cavalry, Maj. L. Williams commanding, was

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pushed on to-day as far as Kent Court-House, 29 miles from Richmond.

We have taken a large number of prisoners, all of whom have been given passes to go back to Williamsburg, not wishing to be encumbered by taking them along.

The advance will be made to Kent Court-House to-morrow morning, from which point reconnoitering parties will be pushed in advance and on our left.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE STONEMAN,

Brigadier-General, Chief of Cavalry, Comdg. Advance Guard.

FORT MONROE, *May* 8, 1862—11 a. m.

P. H. WATSON,

Assistant Secretary of War:

An attack on Sewell's Point will be made to-day. Commander Rodgers with three gunboats moved this morning up the James River toward Richmond. We shall advance directly on Norfolk. Cannonading up the James River can be distinctly heard at this moment, supposed to be our gunboats attacking the Yorktown and Jamestown, that went up two nights ago. Report says that all the tobacco, oil, and cotton are being removed from Norfolk. Things are moving now.

EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *May* 8, 1862—2 p. m.

P. H. WATSON,

Assistant Secretary of War:

The President is at this moment (2 o'clock p. m.) at Fort Wool, witnessing our gunboats—three of them, besides the Monitor and Stevens—shelling the rebel batteries on Sewell's Point. At the same time heavy firing up the James River indicates that Rodgers and Morris are fighting the Jamestown and Yorktown up the James River. The boom of heavy cannonading strikes the ear every minute. The Sawyer gun in Fort Wool has silenced one battery on Sewell's Point. The James rifle mounted on Fort Wool also does good work. It was a beautiful sight to witness the boats moving on to Sewell's Point, and one after another opening fire and blazing away every minute. The troops will be ready in an hour to move. The ships engaged are the Dacotah, the Savannah, the San Jacinto, the Monitor, and the Stevens. The Merrimac has not made her appearance, but is expected in the field every minute. A rebel tug came over this morning, and the deserters said the Merrimac was at Norfolk when they left.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

WILLIAMSBURG,

(Received *May* 9, 1862, 12.19 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,

Secretary of War:

I respectfully ask permission to reorganize the army corps. I am not willing to be held responsible for the present arrangement, experi-

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ence having proved it to be very bad, and it having very nearly resulted in a most disastrous defeat. I wish either to return to the organization by division or else be authorized to relieve incompetent commanders of army corps. Had I been one-half hour later on the field on the 5th we would have been routed and would have lost everything. Notwithstanding my positive orders I was informed of nothing that had occurred, and I went to the field of battle myself upon unofficial information that my presence was needed to avoid defeat. I found there the utmost confusion and incompetency, the utmost discouragement on the part of the men. At least a thousand lives were really sacrificed by the organization into corps.

I have too much regard for the lives of my comrades and too deep an interest in the success of our cause to hesitate for a moment. I learn that you are equally in earnest, and I therefore again request full and complete authority to relieve from duty with this army commanders of corps or divisions who prove themselves incompetent.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 9, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

The President is unwilling to have the army corps organization broken up, but also unwilling that the commanding general shall be trammeled and embarrassed in actual skirmishing, collision with the enemy, and on the eve of an expected great battle. You, therefore, may temporarily suspend that organization in the army now under your immediate command, and adopt any you see fit until further order. He also writes you privately.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 9, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

MY DEAR SIR: I have just assisted the Secretary of War in framing the part of a dispatch to you relating to army corps, which dispatch of course will have reached you long before this will.

I wish to say a few words to you privately on this subject. I ordered the army corps organization not only on the unanimous opinion of the twelve generals whom you had selected and assigned as generals of divisions, but also on the unanimous opinion of every military man I could get an opinion from, and every modern military book, yourself only excepted. Of course I did not on my own judgment pretend to understand the subject. I now think it indispensable for you to know how your struggle against it is received in quarters which we cannot entirely disregard. It is looked upon as merely an effort to pamper one or two pets and to persecute and degrade their supposed rivals. I have had no word from Sumner, Heintzelman, or Keyes. The commanders of these corps are of course the three highest officers with you, but I am constantly told that you have no consultation or communica-

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tion with them; that you consult and communicate with nobody but General Fitz John Porter and perhaps General Franklin. I do not say these complaints are true or just, but at all events it is proper you should know of their existence. Do the commanders of corps disobey your orders in anything?

When you relieved General Hamilton of his command the other day you thereby lost the confidence of at least one of your best friends in the Senate. And here let me say, not as applicable to you personally, that Senators and Representatives speak of me in their places as they please without question, and that officers of the Army must cease addressing insulting letters to them for taking no greater liberty with them.

But to return: Are you strong enough—are you strong enough, even with my help—to set your foot upon the necks of Sumner, Heintzelman, and Keyes all at once? This is a practical and very serious question for you.

The success of your army and the cause of the country are the same, and of course I only desire the good of the cause.

Yours, truly,

A. LINCOLN.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Hampton Roads, Va., May 9, 1862.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

SIR: Agreeably to a communication* just received from the Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, I have the honor to report that the instructions I gave yesterday to the officers commanding the several vessels detailed to open fire upon Sewell's Point were that the object of the move was to ascertain the practicability of landing a body of troops thereabouts, and to reduce the works if it could be done; that the wooden vessels should attack the principal work in enfilade, and that the Monitor, to be accompanied by the Stevens, should go up as far as the wrecks, and there operate in front. On the Merrimac's appearance outside of the wrecks, the Monitor had orders to fall back into fair channel way, and only to engage her seriously in such a position that this ship, together with the merchant vessels intended for the purpose, could run her down. If an opportunity presented itself the other vessels were not to hesitate to run her down, and the Baltimore, an unarmed steamer of light draught, high speed, and with a curved bow, was kept in the direction of the Monitor expressly to throw herself across the Merrimac, either forward or aft of her plated house. But the Merrimac did not engage the Monitor, nor did she place herself where she could have been assailed by our ram vessels to any advantage, or where there was any prospect whatever of getting at her.

My instructions were necessarily verbal, and in giving them I supposed that I was carrying out your wishes in substance, if not to the letter.

The demonstration resulted in establishing the fact that the number of guns at the principal work on Sewell's Point has been essentially reduced, and is not greater now than about seventeen, and that the number of men now stationed there is comparatively quite limited.

* Not found.

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The quarters connected with the work were set on fire by our shells, and no doubt seriously injured.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer, Comdg. North Atlantic Blockading Squadron.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
Fort Monroe, Va., May 9, 1862.

General LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General, Washington:

General McClellan desires that the Chief of the Topographical Bureau should send him eight or ten officers junior to General Humphreys, to move with his army until it reaches Richmond.

You will please order it to be done, if it can be.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
Fort Monroe, Va., May 9, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

The Topographical Engineers will be sent, if they are to be had. Orders have been given to that effect. Your report as to the rebel steamers up the James River agrees with information direct from Norfolk. We have official reports from Butler and Farragut of the capture of the Forts Jackson and Saint Philip and the occupation of New Orleans by our forces.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

U. S. STEAMER GALENA,
Off Hog Island, James River, May 9, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Galena, Aroostook, and Port Royal engaged two batteries yesterday, each of about ten guns. We silenced the first at Rock Wharf, and finding the second one, at Mother Line's Bluff, took too many shell, the Galena laid abeam of the battery as close as the pilot could take her, so as to disconcert the aim of the rebels while the wooden gunboats ran by, which they did successfully, when the Galena also went up. The Yorktown and Jamestown, lying between these batteries, moved up the river as we approached them.

I hear that the Galena was well handled. She is now aground. I hope to get off this evening, but it depends upon the tide, which is irregular in amount.

Very truly, yours,

JOHN RODGERS.

WILLIAMSBURG, *May 9, 1862—12 m.*

WAR DEPARTMENT:

Heard a few minutes ago that Galena was aground off Hog Island. I judge not badly, for reason that Rodgers does not throw off coal. Have

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sent him all the assistance he asks. My troops are in motion and in magnificent spirits. They have all the air and feelings of veterans. It will do your heart good to see them. Have effected junction with Franklin. Instructions have been given so that the Navy will receive prompt support whenever and wherever required.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 9, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

The last reports from Commander Rodgers were last evening, that he had passed Day's Point and Harden's Bluff, after heavy cannonading at both places. He started at 6 yesterday. The Merrimac and Monitor are at this moment approaching each other (11 o'clock a. m.), and will probably engage, unless the Merrimac falls back to Sewell's Point. No troops were landed there yesterday on account of her presence.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WILLIAMSBURG, *May* 9, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Dispatch received. Nothing from gunboats since my last dispatch. Is there anything new from Sewell's Point, Norfolk, or the Merrimac?

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *May* 9, 1862.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War:

Merrimac came out about 3 o'clock. Our squadron—Minnesota, Vanderbilt, and Arago—worked slowly down. Merrimac advanced toward Monitor, then turned around and went behind Sewell's Point, where our ships cannot reach her. She remains there to prevent landing of troops. Nothing else new.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Burnt Ordinary, Va., May 9, 1862.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE STONEMAN,
Commanding Advance Guard:

GENERAL: It is apparent from the orders which have been received from you to-day that you were not aware that the Eighth Illinois Cavalry has been assigned to my corps. It appearing evident to me, however, that you are in great need of the services of that regiment I send

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it to you, retaining only one company to act as messengers for the corps. As Major-General McClellan has ordered certain dispositions of the cavalry, I trust that you will, if possible, order the regiment to rejoin me without delay. I have no other cavalry with me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

ORDERS FOR THE DAY. } HDQRS. FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Burnt Ordinary, Va., May 9, 1862.

Brigadier-General Smith will picket the front and right and left flanks as far to the rear as Mrs. Slater's house.

Brigadier-General Couch will picket the right and left flanks from Mrs. Slater's house half way from his own headquarters to those of Brigadier-General Casey, being particular to throw pickets well out on the road leading toward the Chickahominy River. His pickets will connect with those from General Smith's command.

Brigadier-General Casey will picket the right and left flanks from the pickets of General Couch and the rear as far back as the headquarters of General Keim last night.

No countersign having been furnished from Headquarters Army of the Potomac, no person will be allowed to cross the lines on the front or flanks, but messengers coming up or going down to the rear will be admitted on being properly identified.

By order of Brig. Gen. Keyes:

C. C. SUYDAM,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
Burnt Ordinary, Va., May 9, 1862—11.30 p. m.

Col. A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: In reply to your communication in regard to the march of my command to-day, I have the honor to state, for the information of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac, that the order for the march was issued in accordance with instructions received. A copy of that order is inclosed. During the day, under verbal instructions from the same source, transmitted to me by the Duc de Chartres, Generals Couch and Casey were directed to push forward their troops. A memorandum to that effect was sent to Major-General McClellan by my aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Jackson, who reported that he had shown it to the commanding general in person, who expressed his approval, as I am informed by Lieutenant Jackson. I gave no order for General Couch's wagons to pass General Smith's wagons, and I am at a loss to know how the mistake occurred which has brought me under the imputation of having disobeyed the orders of my commanding general. I will endeavor to ascertain if by any mistake General Couch received such an order, as I am entirely ignorant that any such order was given.

As I deem that my official character is very gravely assailed, I beg that the commanding general will do me the favor to put me in posses-

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sion of the information which induced him to believe that I was guilty of the crime of disobedience of orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

The following is the copy of the memorandum referred to, and constituted, with the first order for the march, the only directions in regard to the movements of the troops or wagons which were issued by me:

Memorandum.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
In the Field, May 9, 1862—11.20 a. m.

Generals COUCH and CASEY:

You will press on the troops without regard to the wagon trains. Move your men with rapidity, and let the wagon trains come up as fast as the state of the roads will permit.

By order of Brigadier-General Keyes:

C. C. SUYDAM,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 41. } HDQRS. FOURTH ARMY CORPS, *Williamsburg, Va., May* 8, 1862.

In accordance with orders received from the Headquarters Army of the Potomac, this corps will move to-morrow morning in the following order:

1. Smith's division at 5 a. m.
2. Couch's division at 6.30 a. m.
3. Casey's division at 7.30 a. m.

Each division will carry at least three days' rations, or more if possible, and will drive all their beef cattle. The wagons of each division will follow the command to which they belong. Brigadier-General Smith, commanding Second Division, will send a staff officer to General Headquarters before 8 o'clock to-day, to receive instructions concerning the road to be taken. The other divisions will follow Smith, unless otherwise directed after arriving at Williamsburg. The cavalry will follow immediately after the train of Smith's division.

By order of Brigadier-General Keyes:

C. C. SUYDAM,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 10, 1862.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH:

MY DEAR SIR: I send you this copy of your report of yesterday for the purpose of saying to you in writing that you are quite right in supposing the movement made by you and therein reported was made in accordance with my wishes verbally expressed to you in advance. I avail myself of the occasion to thank you for your courtesy and all your conduct, so far as known to me, during my brief visit here.

Yours, very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

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FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 10, 1862.

P. H. WATSON, Esq.,
Assistant Secretary, Washington:

The troops were landed last night, and are on the advance to Norfolk. Nothing for the last twenty-four hours from Rodgers' expedition. Nothing of any interest from the army. Your telegram received. We shall wait the result on Norfolk.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT,
Nineteen miles from Williamsburg, May 10, 1862—10 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Telegram received. I left instructions to forward to you any news from Rodgers. Glad to hear Norfolk movement. We are getting on well.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
May 10, 1862—12 noon.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

The forces under General Wool are advancing on Norfolk. Great volumes of smoke in the direction of Norfolk indicate that the rebels are burning the city or the navy-yard. Frémont thinks that Johnston [Johnson] with a large force is in front of him. The Merrimac is still at Sewell's Point. Nothing later from Corinth.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

CAMP, NINETEEN MILES FROM WILLIAMSBURG,
May 10, 1862. (Received 5 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have fully established my connection with the troops near West Point, and the dangerous movement has passed. The West Point Railway is not very much injured. Materials for repairs, such as rails, &c., cars, and engines, may now be sent to me. Should Norfolk be taken and the Merrimac destroyed, I can change my line to the James River and dispense with the railroad.

I shall probably occupy New Kent in force to-morrow, and then make my first preparations for battle. As it is, my troops are in advance of their supplies. I must so arrange my depot that we can follow up success. When at New Kent I will be in position to make a thorough examination of the country so as to act understandingly.

General Johnston cannot well be in front of Frémont, for two reasons: First, he has no business there; second, I know that I fought him on Monday, and that he is now on the Chickahominy. I have used his vacated headquarters from day to day. He is certainly in command here with all the troops he can gather.

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Two or three more of the cavalry regiments I left on the Potomac would be very acceptable. I am overworking what I have.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp at Roper's Meeting-House, May 10, 1862.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE STONEMAN,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires to be informed without delay what force, if any, the enemy have in the vicinity of New Kent, as far as your knowledge goes, and if there be a force how it is composed—how much artillery, cavalry, and infantry. He would be glad to know if you have learned anything of the enemy's location.

He desires, further, to be acquainted with the condition and character of the roads; what repairs, if any, may be necessary, and the correct distances, as well as their directions. Any topographical information that you may have acquired with respect to the section within the limits of your reconnaissance it would be desirable to have forwarded.

The commanding general further directs that you dispatch messengers three times within each twenty-four hours to communicate to these headquarters the events that may occur and the information obtained from time to time.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp at Roper's Meeting-House, May 10, 1862.

Generals SMITH, COUCH, CASEY, KEYES, HEINTZELMAN, HOOKER, and KEARNY:

The commanding general directs that you give the most stringent instructions to prevent depredations upon the persons and property of the inhabitants. No property is to be taken except in extreme cases, and then only by the order of the commander of the troops for the time being and by the officers appointed by him for that purpose.

The weather being now warm, fence rails must not be used for firewood, but the necessary fuel must be provided from the woods.

The good conduct of the troops thus far has had the happiest effect, and the general commanding indulges the hope that no effort will be spared on your part to maintain the good name which we have thus gained.

The general deems it of the highest importance that these instructions should be literally obeyed.

The general also directs me to say that he has observed that the trains do not keep properly closed up, but occupy entirely too much space on the road, and he directs that the evil be promptly remedied.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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ELTHAM, *May* 10, 1862—4 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

GENERAL: I have started the reconnaissance in the direction of Cumberland. The river is obstructed by sunken vessels between here and there, and I have sent a tug to try to get them out. It is not, however, certain that she will succeed enough to get the gunboats through, although perhaps transports may get over it.

Mounted pickets of the enemy are seen on the river banks above us. They do not trouble us.

My wagons and cavalry are landing not as fast as I wish, but still doing perhaps as well as I have a right to expect. Two regiments of Colonel Taylor's brigade and one four-gun battery I sent yesterday to the assistance of General Stoneman's train. He has kept them since, and I will be glad to have them back as soon as they can be spared.

The landing here is good, but of course the higher up we can get the better.

Let me know by the bearer whether I shall go out to meet you and where—I mean myself; not the command.

Truly, yours,

W. B. FRANKLIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

FORT MONROE, *May* 10, 1862.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War:

The forces under General Wool are advancing upon Norfolk. The landing was without any accident. Great volumes of smoke in the direction of Norfolk indicate that the rebels are burning the city or the navy-yard. The Merrimac is still off Sewell's Point. Rodgers has not been heard from. Nothing heard to-day from McClellan. The President and I have just come from the place where the forces were landed, near Willoughby Point. Schenck and Frémont appear to be stampeded slightly.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

FORT MONROE,
Sunday Morning, May 10, 1862.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War:

Twelve o'clock at night. Norfolk is ours, and also Portsmouth and the navy-yard. General Wool, having completed the landing of his forces at Willoughby Point about 9 o'clock this morning, commenced his march on Norfolk with 5,000 men. Secretary Chase accompanied the general. About 5 miles from the landing place a rebel battery was found on the opposite side of the bridge over Tanner's Creek, and after a few discharges upon two companies of infantry that were in the advance the rebels burned the bridge. This compelled our forces to march around 5 miles farther. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon our forces were within a short distance of Norfolk and were met by a delegation of citizens. The city was formally surrendered; our troops were marched in, and now have possession. General Viele is in command as military governor. The

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city and navy-yard were not burned. The fires which have been seen for some hours prove to be woods on fire. General Wool, with Secretary Chase, returned about 11 o'clock to-night. General Huger withdrew his force without a battle. The Merrimac is still off Sewell's Point. Commander Rodgers' expedition was heard from this afternoon ascending the James River. Reports from General McClellan are favorable. We shall return to Washington to-morrow.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

YORKTOWN, *May* 10, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have just returned from above West Point. General McClellan encamped opposite there, upon main road to Richmond, this evening. Our advanced column was expected to reach New Kent to-night. Rebel pickets were about 5 miles above West Point. Three gunboats went up the Pamunkey to-day to remove rebel vessels sunk in the channel. Two rebel gunboats in process of construction were burned at West Point on the approach of our troops. We are pushing troops and supplies up the river from here as rapidly as possible.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 144. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp, Roper's Meeting-House, Va., May* 10, 1862.

The general commanding learns with regret that notwithstanding the orders already issued on the subject the men of the command have committed many depredations since leaving Yorktown. The general has reliable information that some of the officers connected with the command not only do not try to prevent these outrages but are guilty of them themselves.

The attention of division commanders is called to this subject, and the strictest measures will be taken to prevent all kinds of depredations. Any officer or man hereafter found guilty of stealing will be immediately placed in irons, tried by a military commission, and punished to the extent of the law.

Division commanders will be held responsible that this order is strictly obeyed. The orders with reference to stragglers and rear guards have not been obeyed. Division and brigade commanders will be held responsible that these orders are carried out in future.

When the head of a division approaches a house the provost-marshal will send a guard to remain at it until the head of the next division arrives. If the provost guard is not large enough more will be furnished, and of the best men in the command.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *May* 11, 1862.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War:

The Merrimac was blown up by the rebels at two minutes before 5

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o'clock this morning. She was set fire to about 3 o'clock, and the explosion took place at the time stated. It is said to have been a grand sight by those who saw it. The Monitor, Stevens, and the gunboats have gone up toward Norfolk.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

[Similar dispatch to McClellan.]

CAMP, NINETEEN MILES FROM WILLIAMSBURG,
May 11—9 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I congratulate you from the bottom of my heart upon the destruction of the Merrimac. I would now most earnestly urge that our gunboats and the iron-clad boats be sent as far as possible up the James River without delay. This will enable me to make our movements much more decisive.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, U. S. Army.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
May 11, 1862.

Flag-Officer L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Hampton Roads:

I suggest preparations for an immediate attack upon Fort Caswell with all the force you can spare, including the two iron-clads, so soon as they can be spared, which should be in a couple of days. Answer by telegraph, and report daily by the Cherrystone boat. Push all the boats you can spare up James River, even to Richmond, unless the President directs to the contrary.

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

SUNDAY, *May* 11, 1862—2 p. m.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

We are on board the steamer homeward bound, having just returned from Norfolk.

The order to send the Monitor, Stevens, and one or two other boats up the James River has been given and will be executed immediately, as I am assured by Flag-Officer Goldsborough.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CAMP, NINETEEN MILES FROM WILLIAMSBURG,
May 11, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Without waiting further for official reports which have not yet reached me, I wish to bear testimony to the splendid conduct of Hooker's and

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Kearny's divisions, under command of General Heintzelman, in the battle of Williamsburg. Their bearing was worthy of veterans. Hooker's division for hours gallantly withstood the attack of greatly superior numbers, with very heavy loss. Kearny's arrived in time to restore the fortunes of the day, and came most gallantly into action. I shall probably have occasion to call attention to other commands, and do not wish to do injustice to them by mentioning them now.

If I had had the full information I now have in regard to the troops above named when I first telegraphed they would have been specially mentioned and commended. I spoke only of what I knew at the time, and shall rejoice to do full justice to all engaged.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
May 11, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac, Va.:

I congratulate you on your success. It is General Edward Johnson, not Joe Johnston, who is in front of Frémont. General McDowell still at Fredericksburg. Secretary of War expected back to-night.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 121. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp at Roper's Meeting-House, Va., May* 11, 1862.

It having been reported to the commanding general that the Ninth Regiment New York Cavalry is in a state of disaffection, he deems it unjust to the brave soldiers who constitute this army that men thus displaying a spirit of cowardice in face of the enemy should remain longer with them. The commanding officer of the regiment will prepare lists of the men thus showing themselves unworthy to belong to this army and forward the same to these headquarters, to the end that these persons may be discharged, and that the army and the country may be made acquainted with the names of those who have basely held back their services in the time of their country's need. These lists will be given to the army and the public.

It is to be hoped that there are many in the regiment who are animated with the desire to participate in the battle expected soon to take place. Men thus honorably disposed will be sent by their colonel to join the Artillery Reserve, where their service can be more usefully employed at this moment than in any other way.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 122. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp at Roper's Meeting-House, Va., May* 11, 1862.

I. The officers and soldiers of the Army of the Potomac, when within any of the States in rebellion, will not be allowed to take or destroy the

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property of the inhabitants therein, on the plea ot the owners being disloyal, or upon any other pretense.

II. Soldiers will not be permitted to straggle from their proper commands, nor will they enter the premises of the inhabitants without permission from the proper authority.

III. The provost-marshals of divisions will have the means of knowing who are the disloyal inhabitants, and will give the necessary orders for taking possession of any property belonging to such, if it should be deemed necessary.

In the absence of such orders all provost guards will give protection to the private property of the inhabitants, and treat them with courtesy and kindness.

IV. Persons connected with this army detected in committing or having committed depredations by injuring property of persons, or in carrying off any article or articles from houses or estates (whether abandoned or not) without proper authority, will be held in custody and brought to trial.

V. All property belonging to such inhabitants found in the possession of persons connected with this army will be turned over to the provost-marshals of divisions to be restored to the owners.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 145. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp at Roper's Church, Va., May* 11, 1862.

* * * * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie, having reported to these headquarters, in compliance with instructions from the War Department, is assigned to duty with Hooker's division, Third Army Corps, and will report accordingly.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP NEAR ROPER'S CHURCH,
May 12, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Weather good. Roads improving. White House and Cumberland in our possession. Nothing new from enemy.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Roper's Meeting-House, May 12, 1862—7 p. m.
(Received May 13, 11.30 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I respectfully apply to be furnished with two or at least one additional regiment to furnish the garrisons for Yorktown, Gloucester, and

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Williamsburg. It is extremely embarrassing at the present time to break in on the existing brigade organizations, as I am compelled to do to supply these garrisons.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp at Roper's Church, May 12, 1862.
(Received May 13, 11.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Commander Rodgers writes me to-day that he went with the gunboats yesterday past Little Brandon. Everything quiet and no signs of troops crossing the river. He found two batteries of ten or twelve guns each on the south side of James River—one opposite the mouth of the Warwick, the other about southwest from Mulberry Point. The upper battery on Harden's or Mother Line's Bluff has heavy rifled pieces. Between the batteries lay the Jamestown and Yorktown. Commander Rodgers offered battle, but the gunboats moved off. He silenced one battery, and finding it required too much ammunition to silence the other ran past it.

Rodgers says the Galena cannot use her engines when aground, the valve-pipes and condenser becoming clogged with sand, &c. He says that the channel marks are all changed; that the Galena will almost certainly run aground in passing up to City Point, and that while aground she is to a great degree paralyzed.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
Fort Monroe, May 12, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, Williamsburg:

SIR: The Merrimac is blown up. Our vessels of war have gone up James River; among others the Monitor.

Your flank will be protected on the James River. A small detachment will answer for Yorktown.

I want all my troops. I intend going to Suffolk, leaving a few troops at Newport News and a sufficient force at Fort Monroe.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 123. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp at Roper's Meeting-House, Va., May* 12, 1862.

I. Hereafter no newspaper correspondent or other citizen not in the military service will be allowed to go to the front beyond General Headquarters, or to accompany the advance guard or any of the advanced divisions on the march.

II. All passes to newspaper correspondents to accompany the army will be signed by Brig. Gen. R. B. Marcy, chief of staff. No others will be recognized.

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III. The number of stragglers from the various regiments of the army on the march to this point has been so great as seriously to diminish the effective strength of the army for the day. As it is of the first importance, in view of being prepared at any moment to meet the enemy, that every man capable of bearing arms should be with his company, all officers must use every endeavor to prevent straggling. Each brigade commander will place a guard in rear of his brigade, with stringent orders to bring up all stragglers. Division commanders will be held responsible that these orders are strictly carried into effect.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 146. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp at Roper's Church, May* 12, 1862.

* * * * * * *

VII. Order of march for to-morrow:

Franklin's division will move at 4 a. m., to encamp at Cumberland.

Smith's division to move at 5 a. m. to Cumberland via New Kent Court-House, and to take up the brigade which has been detached to that place. On his arrival at Cumberland General Smith will report to General Franklin.

F. J. Porter's to start at 5 a. m., to follow the road taken by Franklin, and to encamp at Cumberland, if possible.

The Artillery Reserve to march at 4 a. m., and follow Smith to Cumberland.

Sykes' brigade to start at 5 a. m., and take the road followed by Hunt. On his arrival at Cumberland General Sykes will report to General F. J. Porter.

Duane's battalion of Regular Engineers to follow Sykes.

General headquarters to march at 6 a. m. by Atkinson's and Elliot's.

The Cavalry Reserve to march at 10 a. m., by the Barhamsville road and Jennings' and Elliot's, and to encamp at Cumberland. The road passes through Franklin's present camp.

Couch's division to march at 7 a. m.

Casey's division to follow Couch. The wagons of the two divisions are to follow Casey, and both divisions to encamp at New Kent Court-House. A brigade, to be taken from either division, will be detached by General Keyes as a rear guard.

Kearny's division: Two brigades to march to the vicinity of the road which leads to Diascund Bridge, and which leaves the New Kent Court-House road about 8 miles in front of Barhamsville (Baskinwalker's store). The remaining brigade to encamp in the vicinity of Roper's Church (present camp of General Headquarters), watching the Diascund road, and to await further orders.

Hooker to await further orders at his present camp.

Sumner to await further orders at Eltham.

The Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Col. D. McM. Gregg, to remain at New Kent Court-House for further orders.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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U. S. SHIP MINNESOTA,
Fort Monroe, May 13, 1862.

Hon GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

From what I gather, Rodgers, when last heard from, on the 11th instant, was at a point about 25 miles this side of City Point. The Monitor and Stevens have probably joined him ere this. Some delay may be experienced at the obstructions placed by the enemy 10 miles this side of Richmond, but nothing more I apprehend, nor do I think the delay will be beyond half a day or so at most, although, of course, it is impossible for me to judge with any great precision upon the subject.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Hampton Roads, Va., May 13, 1862.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington City:

SIR: The reports in the papers about the navy-yard at Norfolk are utterly and entirely false. To have destroyed it more effectually than has been done would indeed have been a difficult task. Essentially, it is in utter ruins.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

FORT MONROE, *May* 13, 1862.
(Received May 14, 12.47 p. m.)

Hon E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have Suffolk, taken last evening by Major Dodge. All quiet. Major-General McClellan's troops are at Cumberland.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

CAMP NEAR ROPER'S CHURCH,
May 13, 1862—4.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Am about starting. Nothing new received during the night. Enemy concentrating on my front, near Chickahominy.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Cumberland, May 13, 1862—8.30 p. m. (Rec'd May 14, 12.40.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We reached Cumberland to-day. In consequence of the small number of roads and their narrowness our movements have been attended

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with great difficulty. The same causes will render our farther progress necessarily slow. We have had one or two skirmishes to-day, but without any especial results. The enemy is in force in my front, and my views respecting his intention to bring to bear against me all his available force remain unchanged.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., May 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Five locomotives and eighty cars will start for West Point to-night, if you do not countermand the order.

Nothing from Halleck.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War.

CUMBERLAND, *May* 14, 1862.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

The battle will be fought, probably, this side of Richmond. We think that you should order whole or major part of General McDowell's, with Shields, up the York River as soon as possible, and order Wyman's flotilla up the James River. We find General McClellan confident of success. He moves to White House to-morrow morning, and wishes to cut off enemy's rear before reaching that point. We go to-morrow morning to Fort Monroe, and expect to inquire there about the operations to guard James River.

WM. H. SEWARD.

CUMBERLAND, *May* 14, 1862.
(Received May 15, 1.33 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have to request that the rolling stock and material for repairs of West Point and Richmond Railway may be shipped to West Point at once.

We know of one bridge to rebuild between West Point and the Pamunkey River besides that at White House, which is some 700 feet long.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CUMBERLAND, *May* 14, 1862.
(Received May 15, 1.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Am detained by the necessity of making new roads and repairing old ones. Move to-morrow morning to White House in force. Every-

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thing well closed up, and will try to keep it so. News from front indicates enemy in large force. Raining to-day. No time will be lost in bringing about a decisive battle.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S, 14*th*—7 p. m.
(Received Washington, D. C., May 16, 1862—1.40 p. m.)

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Please order a supply of Schenkl ammunition for the 20-pounder Parrott gun, say 10,000 rounds, to be sent to the White House for the use of this army. That furnished has not given satisfactory results.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
New Kent Court-House, May 14, 1862—10.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: The last of my corps arrived at their bivouac, near this point, at about 3 o'clock this morning. The trains are nearly all in, and General Casey's ammunition has arrived. The delay of the march was unavoidable on account of the blocking of the roads by trains.

On my arrival at the telegraph station last night I wrote a note in pencil to Colonel Colburn to say I would establish my headquarters near General Couch, but on arriving near his camp I learned that my column had been delayed, and so I returned, and dispatched a staff officer to alter my note so as to say that I would encamp here. My front is extensive, and I may change again to-day. If so, will notify you at once.

I will endeavor to finish my report of the battle of Williamsburg to-day.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

P. S.—Since writing the above Colonel Gregg, Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, has reported to me that he has pickets 6 miles out on the Richmond road; that they are annoyed by the enemy's shell; that the nearest infantry is 2 miles this side, thrown out from Couch's division, and that he needs a company to advance up to his pickets to support them. I have ordered General Couch to furnish a company, in compliance therewith.

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

P. S.—I have directed General Casey to guard well out toward the Chickahominy River, and to place his outguards far out on the roads and to make an examination and to be certain that no road is left unguarded.

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

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U. S. FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Hampton Roads, May 14, 1862.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: I have dates from Commander Rodgers of the 12th instant. The Monitor and Stevens had joined him where he was lying off James Island, and he was to move up the river that evening until joined by the Monitor and Stevens. He was, as he says, unable to resist the five gunboats of the enemy above him, because the Galena would inevitably be grounded in passing the bar, and thus leave only the Aroostook and Port Royal to assist them. Notwithstanding my orders to Lieutenant-Commander Jeffers to reduce all of the enemy's works on the James River as he went along, spike their guns, and blow up their magazines, and thus leave the river entirely open, so that supplies of any sort might be forwarded without difficulty, he has not carried them out, and I now am informed that two of their works on the river bank of James River and at Rock Wharf Landing, and the other at Harden's or Mother Line's Bluff, both between here and our vessel up the James River, must in effect be taken before the river can be navigated by our supply vessels. My present intention is to send the Susquehanna and Dacotah up the river for the purpose of taking those works, which, as Rodgers informs me, although strong in guns, are probably weak in men. I have put 200-pounder Parrott's on board the Susquehanna, and the Dacotah came here provided with one. The Seminole I shall retain at Norfolk, and perhaps the San Jacinto besides; but if I do have to send the San Jacinto with the Susquehanna and Dacotah, then I shall have to move this ship up to Norfolk, and then leave nothing in these Roads for the time being. Before sending off this expedition I hope to hear from Rodgers again, to whom I have written by mail of to-day. If he succeeds in getting to Richmond there may be no necessity for it.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 147. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Cumberland, May 14, 1862.

* * * * * * *

IV. Order of march for to-morrow:

General Headquarters will move at — a. m., and be established at the White House.

Franklin's division will move at 4 a. m., followed by Porter's division and the Infantry Reserve. The latter will be followed by the Artillery Reserve.

All the above troops will encamp at the White House.

Woodbury's Engineer Brigade: The men and wagons will march to the White House, to which place the materials of the engineer train will be sent by water.

Duane's battalion of Regular Engineers, and the pontoon train under his charge, will proceed to the White House this afternoon.

The Cavalry Reserve will move at 10 a. m. to the White House.

Brigadier-General Humphreys will designate an officer to act as a guide to this column.

The Second Corps, Sumner's (except the Eighth Illinois Cavalry, on detached service), will be concentrated at Cumberland.

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The two divisions will move at 5 a. m.

The Third Corps, Porter's division excepted, will be concentrated at Cumberland.

Kearny's division will move at 5 a. m.

Hooker's division will move at 6 a. m., but the head of his column will not enter the New Kent and Cumberland road until the rear of Sumner's Corps shall have cleared it. Grover's brigade will also march to Cumberland, if practicable, without too much fatiguing the men and animals.

Until further orders one division of the Fourth Army Corps will be posted in the opening about 1 mile to the front and right of New Kent Court-House and one division will remain at New Kent Court-House.

The Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Gregg, will remain, temporarily, at New Kent Court-House, under the orders of General Keyes.

Generals Sumner and Heintzelman will send staff officers ahead to acquaint themselves with the roads their troops are to follow, and will leave intelligent non-commissioned officers where other roads cross or meet, to prevent any portion of their troops or trains from taking the wrong direction.

By command of Major General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY,
May 15, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Cumberland, Va.:

Your long dispatch of yesterday* is just received. I will answer more fully soon. Will say now that all your dispatches to the Secretary of War have been promptly shown to me. Have done and shall do all I could and can to sustain you. Hoped that the opening of James River and putting Wool and Burnside in communication, with an open road to Richmond, or to you, had effected something in that direction. I am still unwilling to take all our force off the direct line between Richmond and here.

A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., May 15, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Cumberland, Va.:

On Tuesday last I directed McCallum and General Meigs to send forward to West Point the rolling stock and material for repairing the West Point and Richmond Railway, in anticipation that it would soon be called for.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War.

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* See McClellan's report, Part I, p. 26.

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CUMBERLAND, *May* 15, 1862.
(Received May 17, 3 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Rain commenced again yesterday and continued last night and to-day. With utmost difficulty I have moved two divisions in advance this day and moved forward those in rear. We have to do much road-making as we go, but are continually advancing.

Nothing new from the front to-day.

I have heard nothing from James River gunboats. Very cool, wet, and dreary to-day.

Secretaries Seward, Bates, and Welles left last night.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CUMBERLAND, *May* 15, 1862.
(Received May 17, 3 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Rain has continued all day, making the roads horrible. With great difficulty I have moved two divisions to White House and closed up the rear pretty well. On this plan headquarters move to White House to-morrow.

Nothing of interest to-day. We are advancing as rapidly as is possible, but it is slow work. I, however, have everything well in hand.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 16, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I am here in command of the two most important positions in the possession of the Federal Government. If any disaster should befall General McClellan I am wholly unable with the force I have to defend these two positions. The calls made upon me by General McClellan to take care of his sick, wounded, and prisoners of every description take from me a considerable number of men. I have sent to Norfolk about 8,000 men, and will send over another thousand, making in all about 9,000 rank and file. With this force I have ten pieces of light artillery. This force would be wholly inadequate to defend Norfolk in case General McClellan should be defeated. At the same time Newport News and Fort Monroe would be exposed to capture by a victorious army, they having but 3,000 men effective to defend both places. I want ten regiments and 300 horses to put myself in a condition to resist the force that might be brought against me in case of General McClellan's defeat. It is said he intends to intrench his army some 10 miles from the position occupied by the rebels 10 miles in front of Richmond. The horses I want are requisite for three light or field batteries.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
May 16, 1862—1.12 p. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Fort Monroe:

If any person not in the military service should presume to give you any instructions or directions in respect to military operations you will give them no attention, unless they are specially authorized, in writing, by the President or by this Department.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WHITE HOUSE, *May* 16, 1862.
(Received May 17, 2.45 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Our advanced columns occupied Baltimore Cross-Roads and Tunstall's Station to-day. The rebel pickets withdrew before our troops. They burned the railroad bridge across the Pamunkey at this place and other bridges in advance as far as we have examined.

The rains during the past two days have rendered the roads so bad that the train of one division has been thirty-six hours in making 5 miles.

I have been informed this evening that the official reports of certain commanders engaged in the battle at Williamsburg have by some means unknown to me got into the hands of newspaper reporters, who will probably forward them for publication before I have submitted them to you. I shall take steps to ascertain how this has been done and prevent any such unmilitary and unjustifiable proceedings in future. In the mean time I beg to suggest that it might be well to prohibit their publication in this instance by a telegraphic order from the Department. My report will be transmitted as soon as I receive all the reports from the different commanders.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

INGALLS, *May* 16, 1862.
(Received May 17, 4.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

A contraband just in reports that he heard an officer of Confederate Army say our gunboats had reached within 8 miles of Richmond.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
White House, May 16, 1862—11 a. m.
(Received May 17, 4.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Have just arrived. Roads as bad as can be. The trains of two divisions which left Cumberland yesterday a. m. are not yet half way up—distance 5 miles. Rain has ceased, so that roads will, I hope, improve. Impossible to make other movements of troops to-day.

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I have taken every precaution to secure from injury this house, where Washington passed the first portion of his married life. I neither occupy it myself nor permit others to occupy it, or the grounds in immediate vicinity.

Nothing new from the front to-day. Enemy in some force at Saint Peter's Church. We cannot get at each other now.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 46. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA, *Fort Monroe, Va., May* 16, 1862.

The organization of the forces now at Norfolk and vicinity will be brigaded until further orders as follows:

Brig. Gen. E. L. Viele's brigade to consist of Second Regiment New York Volunteers, Tenth Regiment New York Volunteers, Sixteenth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers.

Brig. Gen. Max Weber's brigade to consist of First Regiment Delaware Volunteers, Twentieth Regiment New York Volunteers, Fifty-eighth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Brig. Gen. J. C. Robinson's brigade to consist of First Regiment Michigan Volunteers, Twentieth Regiment Indiana Volunteers, Ninety-ninth Regiment New York Volunteers.

The artillery and cavalry will be assigned hereafter.

The Sixteenth Regiment, with a section of Captain Follett's battery, under Lieutenant Whitney, Fourth Artillery, and one squadron of the Eleventh Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry, under a major, will take post at Suffolk. They will march to-morrow.

By command of Maj. Gen. John E. Wool:

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY,
May 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

Opthalmia, contracted while absent from home, has disabled me from writing until to-day.

We have had nothing of interest from any quarter for several days, but are expecting news from Corinth very soon.

An order respecting your application to the President for re-enforcements will be transmitted to-morrow. The instruction you desired respecting the publication of unauthorized official reports has been given.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
May 17, 1862.

Memorandum, in handwriting of President Lincoln, of his proposed additions to instructions of above date to General McDowell and General Meigs' indorsement thereon. (*See also Part I, p.* 28.)

You will retain the separate command of the forces taken with you; but while co-operating with General McClellan you will obey his orders,

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except that you are to judge, and are not to allow your force to be disposed otherwise than so as to give the greatest protection to this capital which may be possible from that distance.

[Indorsement.]

To the SECRETARY OF WAR:

The President having shown this to me, I suggested that it is dangerous to direct a subordinate not to obey the orders of his superior in any case, and that to give instructions to General McClellan to this same end and furnish General McDowell with a copy thereof would effect the object desired by the President. He desired me to say that the sketch of instructions to General McClellan herewith he thought made this addition unnecessary.

Respectfully,

M. C. M.

WILLIAMSBURG, *May* 17, 1862.
(Received May 17, 9.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The gunboats Galena, Monitor, Aroostook, Naugatuck, and Port Royal were repulsed from Fort Darling, 7 miles below Richmond, yesterday. A portion of them have returned to Jamestown Island, near this place, in James River.

Lieutenant Morris, commanding the Port Royal, sent overland to me this morning for intelligence regarding the condition of the forts below the island, and also to assist in burying the dead which he brought down with him. Seventeen have been interred on the banks of the river, and there are a number of wounded on board, including Morris. The 100-pounder gun of the Naugatuck exploded at the first fire.

DAVID CAMPBELL,
Colonel Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

By authority of General McClellan.

WHITE HOUSE, *May* 17, 1862—10.45 p. m.
(Received May 18, 7.35 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

After a careful consideration of the meager accounts I have just received of the gunboats' operations on the James River I am inclined to think that we ought not to be discouraged. They were caught in very adverse circumstances, and I think their repulse will prove to be due to the fact that they were subject to a close musketry fire they could not reply to. I would urge the necessity of perfect co-operation between all the Army and Navy forces in Western [Eastern] Virginia. I have not one word of official information as to the objects to be attained by any of them.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
White House, May 17, 1862—10.30 p. m.
(Received May 18, 8 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

A combined naval and army expedition, under Captain Murray, U. S. Navy, with troops and artillery under Major Willard and Captain Ayres, of the Army, went some 25 miles up the Pamunkey to-day, and forced the rebels to destroy two steamers and some twenty schooners. The expedition was admirably managed, and all concerned deserve great credit.

We have advanced considerably to-day. The roads are now improving, and you may soon expect to hear of the whole army being on the Chickahominy. All goes well.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., May 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

There have been forwarded from Baltimore to West Point five locomotives, eighty cars, 3 miles in length of railroad iron, 30,000 feet, board measure, of timber, one dozen frogs, one dozen switch irons, 1,200 chairs, with full supply of rail spikes, the last of which, it is expected, will reach West Point on Monday.

P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War.

OFF HARDIN'S BLUFF, JAMES RIVER,
May 17, 1862.

G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

The Secretary of the Navy directs me to inform you that the Port Royal has come down from vicinity of Richmond. When within 8 miles, just as the last turn in the river was made, found passage obstructed by two rows of sunken vessels, chains, and spiles, among them also Jamestown and Yorktown. Thursday morning a large battery on Ward's Bluff, 200 feet high, with two rows of guns, opened on vessels. Rifle pits along river filled with sharpshooters. Fight lasted four hours. Galena hit twenty-eight times and perforated eighteen times. Monitor struck three times; uninjured. Thirteen men killed and 11 wounded on board Galena. Lieutenant Morris, of Port Royal, injured in leg by rifle-ball. Two men on Naugatuck wounded. Galena and Monitor came down to City Point. Naugatuck came down with Port Royal. Her gun burst, injuring 1 man.

WM. FAXON,
Chief Clerk.

NEWPORT NEWS, *May* 18, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We went yesterday to Jamestown. James River is cleared of land

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and naval forces of enemy to within 8 miles of Richmond. We met vessels coming down from brisk naval engagement of Thursday. It lasted four hours. Monitor could not reach batteries 200 feet high. River obstructed with vessels sunk across channel, including the Jamestown and Yorktown. The Galena was struck twenty-eight times, pierced eighteen times. Thirteen killed, 11 wounded. Lieutenant Morris, of the gunboat Port Royal, wounded, but not seriously. No other casualties. Lieutenant Jeffers and Commodore Smith report that a co-operating land force will be needed to carry these batteries. The Naugatuck's big gun burst. Everybody says and everything indicates the retirement of the enemy from all country between Richmond and the ocean. Can you send a force to co-operate with Commodore Smith on this river? It would give us Richmond without delay. Commodore Goldsborough orders renewal of the naval fight, and will re-enforce as fast as possible. We return to-morrow.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

NEWPORT NEWS, *May* 18, 1862.

G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

The Secretary of the Navy directs me to inform you that we came up to Day's Point yesterday morning to shell fortifications. Found carefully constructed earthworks, mounting twelve heavy guns, hastily abandoned on Wednesday. Guns splendid, and works partially destroyed. Secession flag left flying. Marines landed, tore it down; raised Stars and Stripes. A few miles above met Port Royal and Naugatuck. Reports severe engagement Thursday morning 8 miles from Richmond. Fleet turned last bend; found river obstructed by two rows of sunken vessels, among which were Jamestown and Yorktown; also by spiles and chains, and directly facing river on bluff, 200 feet high, a battery, with two rows of heavy guns. River shore lined with rifle pits, concealed in woods. Fight lasted four hours. Galena struck twenty-eight times and perforated eighteen times by plunging shot; one hole about 2 feet long. One shot passed through one side and nearly through iron on the other. Had 13 men killed and 11 wounded. Fought at 600 to 1,000 yards. Monitor went ahead, but could not elevate guns enough, and fell back to the Galena. Was struck three times and uninjured. Lieutenant Morris, of Port Royal, wounded by Minie ball in leg. Two men wounded on Naugatuck. Her large gun burst. Vessels returned to City Point on account of batteries on high bluff protecting obstructions. Vessels can go no farther up and cannot take battery. River clear to point of fight. Went up to Jamestown last night to look after matters. Reach Washington to-morrow.

WM. FAXON,
Clerk, N. D.

MCCLELLAN'S, *May* 18, 1862.
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

HON. E. M. STANTON:

I regret to learn that you are ill. Weather now very warm. My pickets within a mile of Bottom's Bridge, and as close to the railway bridge of the Chickahominy. Scouts have been within a quarter of a

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mile of Bottom's Bridge. Enemy there in force. I am moving on several roads, and will soon be in condition to ascertain the strength of their line. The information we get still tends to the conclusion that they intend fighting in front of Richmond. I would be glad to learn something about McDowell's position and the forces in front of him. It interests me as affecting my right flank. What are Banks and Frémont and Wool doing?

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S, *May* 18, 1862.
(Received 8.40 p. m.)

Hon. WM. H. SEWARD:

Dispatch received. My pickets are within a mile of Bottom's Bridge and scouts have been within a quarter of a mile. Am advancing on the other roads. Indications that enemy intend fighting at Richmond. Policy seems to be to concentrate everything there. They hold central position, and will seek to meet us while divided. I think we are committing a great military error in having so many independent columns. The great battle should first be fought by our troops in mass; then divide if necessary. I do not think gunboats can do much without assistance of land forces. I am getting on well.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *May* 18, 1862.
(Received 12.35.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

As you may have already been informed, the Navy was repulsed within 8 miles of Richmond on Thursday, after four hours' fighting. The Galena was hit twenty-eight times, perforated eighteen times; 13 men killed and 11 wounded. The gun of the Stevens bursted, killing 1 man. Lieutenant Morris injured in the leg. Monitor hit three times; uninjured. She and the Galena are at City Point. Port Royal and Stevens are at Harden's Bluff. All quiet here and at Norfolk. I am preparing for coming events. I hope you will send ten regiments over; if they should not be required to defend Norfolk they would be ready for the onward march. I thank you again and again for your kind and friendly messages. I will take care that you have no cause to regret your confidence or appreciation of myself.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON CITY, *May* 18, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL:

It will be impossible at this time to send you more troops. Five generals in the field are asking for troops, and there are none to give them. You will have to hold fast with the force you have.

I had the pleasure of signing your new commission to-day.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE POTOMAC,
May 18, 1862.

General S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
White House:

The commanding general directs that you move one division of your corps to Saint Peter's Church to-morrow, the other division to take post in the vicinity of New Kent Court-House, picketing toward Jones' Bridge. A sufficient command will, however, be left by you at Cumberland to assist in breaking up the depot in that place and to guard the public property there for the time being.

When the stores are all removed the detachment will rejoin its proper command.

Please acknowledge this dispatch.

By order of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 125. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near White House, Va., May* 18, 1862.

I. The attention of the general commanding has been called to the publication of letters from officers and others connected with this army containing information which must have been of much value to the enemy should it have reached him.

To communicate precise intelligence of the strength, position, or movements of the army in private letters, not designed for publication, is itself highly improper, and liable to prove of serious disadvantage to our operations; but when such intelligence is allowed to pass into the public prints the proceeding deserves grave censure, if indeed the offense does not become one demanding the exaction of the penalty denounced by the law for giving information to the enemy.

Henceforth the communication, for publication, of any intelligence likely to prove of advantage to the enemy is prohibited; and the utmost circumspection is enjoined upon correspondents in their private letters.

II. The publication of official reports of military events, or the circulation of copies of the same, for private purposes, in advance of their having reached the War Department and of the authorization of their publication by the Secretary of War, is improper and unmilitary, and is strictly prohibited.

Official reports are the property of the Government; they cannot be published or put in circulation without the consent of the proper authority.

III. The forces commanded by Brig. Gens. F. J. Porter and W. B. Franklin are designated the Fifth and Sixth Provisional Army Corps.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *May* 19, 1862.
(Received May 20, 10.20 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The desponding tone of General McClellan in calling for more troops induced me to ask for more troops. The calling for troops on his part

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creates a suspicion of weakness, and consequently may lead to defeat. It is therefore I called for more troops, to be ready to meet coming events foreshadowed by calls made on the Government. The Sixteenth [Massachusetts] Regiment, with a section of artillery and a squadron of dragoons, occupies Suffolk. I intend sending a greater force as soon as I can forward supplies. I will have cars running on the railroad in two or three days, and the telegraph line established in the course of two days to Suffolk, and I am informed it will be established between Fort Monroe and Cherrystone Creek to-morrow.

The principal part of my forces is at Norfolk and in advance of the naval station, and near the intrenchments facing toward Suffolk. The rebels tore up the rails for some distance from Suffolk leading to here, and burned the bridge that crosses Blackwater River. It is reported that they destroyed all the bridges on the Roanoke Railroad. The people of Norfolk have shown as yet no disposition to acknowledge the Government of the United States; at the same time assert with confidence that General McClellan will be beaten, the rebels having more than 100,000 men in and around Richmond. I do not believe the latter statement, yet it may be true.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Camp at Saint Peter's Church, May 19, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Richardson's division is in camp at this place. Sedgwick's division at the junction of the road leading past Dr. Mayo's house and the direct road from New Kent Court-House to Bottom's Bridge, about 3 miles from this. I cautioned him particularly about watching the roads leading in upon our left.

Very respectfully,

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

TUNSTALL'S STATION, *May* 19, 1862—3 p. m.
(Received May 20, 10.30 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Has been raining again to-day, but the whole army has nevertheless advanced. Have been to Bottom's Bridge to-day. Enemy are there. Expect our reconnoitering parties to be at New Bridge to-day. The troops well together and in hand. Railway in good order between Pamunkey and Chickahominy, except two small bridges, which were burned.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

NEAR TUNSTALL'S STATION,
May 20, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General:

The instructions of the Secretary of War to muster out the Ninth New York Cavalry were duly received. Deeming that it would prove

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highly injurious to the public service to discharge here a regiment for the most part in a state of disaffection I have ordered the regiment to Albany, N. Y., there to await the arrival of an officer to be designated by you to muster it out, and I respectfully request that you will please detail an officer for the purpose.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 126. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Tunstall's Station, Va., May* 20, 1862.

When forage is found in the vicinity of the line of march of this Army, brigade quartermasters, after leaving three months' supply for the subsistence of the owners and their families, including slaves, at the rate of a bushel and a half per month for each person, are authorized to take the remainder for the use of the Government animals.

An accurate account will be kept of all the forage thus taken and receipts given to the owners or their agents for the same, which accounts will be paid on presentation to the chief quartermaster of this army, provided the owner takes the oath of allegiance to the United States; if the oath is not taken, the accounts will be left for future settlement by the Government authorities. No other persons except those herein mentioned will be permitted to take property of any description from the people of the country without special authority from these headquarters.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 153. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Tunstall's Station, Va., May* 20, 1862.

* * * * * * *

XIV. The Artillery Reserve is assigned to duty with the Fifth Provisional Army Corps. Colonel Hunt will report in person or by a staff officer to General Porter at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, U. S. Army, commanding, for May 20, 1862.

Command.	Present for duty.		Present for duty equipped.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Field pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General staff	46	.....	.....	46	57	.....
U. S. Engineers (Duane)	4	233	237	241	281	.....
Engineer Brigade (Woodbury)	60	1,243	1,298	1,336	1,697	.....
Regular Cavalry Reserve (Cooke)	78	1,783	1,837	1,927	2,214	.....
Escort to headquarters (McIntyre)	4	104	105	111	144	.....
Sturges Rifles (Steel)	3	76	79	79	90	.....
Provost guard (A. Porter)	37	556	583	640	734	.....
Regular Artillery Reserve (Hunt)	86	1,802	1,888	1,992	3,187	100
Siege train (Tyler)	57	1,228	1,285	1,330	1,377	.....
Second Army Corps (Sumner's)*	792	16,945	17,664	18,278	20,892	48
Third Army Corps (Heintzelman's)†	767	17,438	18,199	19,731	23,331	34
Fourth Army Corps (Keyes')‡	864	18,059	18,869	19,596	25,512	38
Fifth Provisional Army Corps (Fitz John Porter's) §	698	14,960	15,455	16,120	19,845	24
Sixth Provisional Army Corps (Franklin's)‖	872	19,212	20,074	20,894	24,143	44
Yorktown and Gloucester (Van Alen)	55	1,084	1,139	1,171	1,296	.....
Advance guard (Stoneman)	152	2,949	3,101	3,166	3,583	12
Williamsburg (Campbell)	24	399	423	430	476	.....
Total	4,599	98,071	102,236	107,088	128,864	300

* Richardson's and Sedgwick's divisions.
† Hooker's and Kearny's divisions.
‡ Couch's and Casey's divisions.
§ Morell's and Sykes' divisions.
‖ Slocum's and W. F. Smith's divisions.

WASHINGTON CITY,
May 21, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Your long dispatch of yesterday [to-day] just received.* You will have just such control of General McDowell and his forces as you therein indicate. McDowell can reach you by land sooner than he could get aboard of boats, if the boats were ready at Fredericksburg, unless his march shall be resisted, in which case the force resisting him will certainly not be confronting you at Richmond. By land he can reach you in five days after starting; whereas by water he would not reach you in two weeks, judging by past experience. Franklin's single division did not reach you in ten days after I ordered it.

A. LINCOLN,
President United States.

MCCLELLAN'S, *May* 21, 1862—12.10 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

Notwithstanding rain of last night, everything has advanced except headquarters camp. Franklin is at Cold Harbor, 3 miles from New Bridge; Porter a few miles behind him. Our light troops have crossed at Bottom's Bridge, and reconnaissance now being pushed beyond to ascertain position of enemy. All goes well. Weather is again cloudy. I am starting for Bottom's Bridge and Cold Harbor, returning to this camp to night.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

* See Part I, p. 28.

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WASHINGTON, *May* 21, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

I have just been waited on by a large committee, who present a petition signed by twenty-three Senators and eighty-four Representatives, asking me to restore General Hamilton to his division. I wish to do this, and yet I do not wish to be understood as rebuking you.

Please answer at once.

A. LINCOLN.

MCCLELLAN'S, *May* 21, 1862.
(Received 9 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Have just returned from Bottom's Bridge; was a mile on other side. Reconnaissance on heels of enemy, who probably did not like the skirmish of yesterday. Bridge will be repaired by to-morrow morning and others constructed. All the corps have advanced to-day.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *May* 21, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

All quiet, and nothing of importance to communicate, except at City Point. The chief engineer of the steamer Massachusetts, doctor, and signal officer went on shore, leaving the master's mate with 6 of the crew in the boat. About fifteen minutes after landing the boat was fired into by a party of rebels, killing the master's mate and 1 man and severely wounding 3 others, one of whom has since died, leaving but 1 man in the boat unharmed, who escaped with the boat. The chief engineer, doctor, signal officer, and 2 men were taken prisoners and sent to Petersburg. The Navy is unfortunate.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

The operator at Fort Monroe thinks the general means Wachusett instead of Massachusetts.

W. D., *Op.*

COLD HARBOR,
May 22, 1862—12.30 p. m.

His Excellency ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

Your dispatch just received. The discipline of the Army will not permit the restoration of General Hamilton to his division. Since the matter is pressed as it is I feel obliged to state what I did not care to before, viz, that General Hamilton is not fit to command a division. The task before me is too serious to permit me to hesitate when called upon to express an opinion. The cause of his removal from this army was ample to justify me in the course pursued. You cannot do anything bet-

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ter calculated to injure my army and diminish the probabilities of success in the approaching battle now imminent than to restore General Hamilton to his division. I earnestly protest against any such action, and I trust that after this statement you will not think of sending General Hamilton back to this army.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE RAPPAHANNOCK,
Opposite Fredericksburg, May 22, 1862.

Major-General GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

I have received the orders of the President to move with the army under my command and co-operate with yours in the reduction of Richmond, and also a copy of his instructions to you in relation to that co-operation.

Major-General Shields will join me to-day. As soon as the necessary preparations for the march can be completed, which I think will be by the 24th instant, we shall set forth as the general directions ordered.

There is in front of us to impede our advance the secession Army of the Rappahannock, so called, under the command of Joseph R. Anderson, of the Tredegar Iron Works. His force is from 12,000 to 15,000 men, mostly South Carolina and Georgia troops.

We shall engage this force on our first day's march, as they are now within from 6 to 8 miles of us, posted on and to the right and left of the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad, and in a position of considerable strength. It is my purpose to try and turn this position by throwing a force on their left flank and cut off their opportunity of receiving any re-enforcements from the direction of Gordonsville, and at the same time endeavor to save the railroad bridges. If this can be done, another channel of supply can be had for the forces going against Richmond that cannot fail to give great relief to the quartermaster's and commissary departments of your army, and thus facilitate your operations. We cannot rely on this at first, because they now occupy the line, and I am told are prepared to destroy the bridges if they are forced to fall back.

I beg to ask to what extent can I rely on co-operation from you in my present movements in the way of your cutting off the retreat of the enemy upon Richmond, where they would add 12,000 to the forces against you, and in saving the railroad bridge across the Pamunkey, and to what points on the Pamunkey can you extend your right to join me, and to what point can you cause supplies to be placed for my command, and by what date can I count on finding them ready for me? I shall require subsistence for 38,000 men and forage for 11,000 animals.

IRVIN McDOWELL,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Near Bottom's Bridge, Va., May 22, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: Brigadier-General Casey reports the death of Brigadier-General Keim, late in command of the Second Brigade of his division.

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This melancholy event leaves a vacancy which I trust will be filled immediately by the assignment of an energetic brigadier to that brigade.

The division of Brigadier-General Casey shows a falling off in effective strength since March 30 of 3,577. This computation gives credit for the regiment detached a few days ago and is sufficiently alarming.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 22, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Herewith I transmit the copy of a letter forwarded by me this day to Flag-Officer L. M. Goldsborough, as follows:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, in which you state that the Secretary of the Navy has ordered you to take all the navy ordnance stores from Fort Monroe and put them at Fort Norfolk. In reply I would remark that Fort Norfolk was surrendered to the troops under my command on the 19th instant by the rebels at Norfolk. I cannot, therefore, permit the Navy to take possession of it without an order from the President of the United States or the Secretary of War.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
May 23, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have the honor to forward the copy of my letter of this date to Flag-Officer L. M. Goldsborough, as follows:

From the information I have received I cannot permit the Navy to take possession of any of the works, including the navy-yard or depot in the vicinity of Norfolk, all having been surrendered to me and taken possession by the troops under my command, without authority of the President of the United States or the Secretary of War.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

P. S.—Please answer.

JOHN E. WOOL.

FORT MONROE, *May* 23, 1862.
(Received 8.15 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The telegraph wires being down between this and the Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac, it may not be improper to send you the following dispatch from General McClellan:

[From Headquarters Army Potomac, Cold Harbor, 23d.]

To Maj. Gen. JOHN E. WOOL,
Commanding Department of Virginia, Fort Monroe:

Dispatch received. Much obliged for the information, which corroborates much that

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have heard from other sources. I would be glad to have you communicate the same to Washington. I have crossed the Chickahominy at Bottom's Bridge. Am making four bridges there, and constructing a rough *tête-de-pont*. Shall do the same at the other bridges before advancing in force to the attack. My headquarters are now about 3 miles from New Bridge. I expect a desperate battle against superior force, but am so placed that I have no choice but to give it, and trust to my own resources to overcome the difficulties. Will your position permit you to assist me by garrisoning Yorktown, Williamsburg, and White House? It would be a great obligation.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THREE MILES FROM NEW BRIDGE,
Cold Harbor, May 23, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We are hard at work at Bottom's Bridge, building four bridges and covering the *débouché*. Are now reconnoitering New and Meadow Bridges. Have my communications well covered and everything well in hand.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 23, 1862—11.45 p. m.

General E. D. KEYES:

The general commanding directs me to say to you that it is probable the part of the army here will cross the Chickahominy to-morrow or the day following, and he regards it as a matter of importance that you should push forward your advance to-morrow to the Seven Pines, spoken of in my dispatch of this evening.

The general is much surprised that a deserter from the rebel army, who gives his name as James A. Beale, and states that he gave himself up to your pickets on the 17th instant, has not been sent to these headquarters until to-day.

This man communicates important information, which should have been made known before. You will please take steps to have all persons that come within your lines from the enemy in future sent at once to these headquarters, after obtaining from them such information as relates to the movements of the enemy immediately in your front, which should not consume more than thirty minutes' time after he reaches your headquarters.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 127. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Cold Harbor, Va., May 23, 1862.

Each brigade commander will detail daily two companies, under a field officer, to march in rear of the brigade train as a guard. The field officer will be responsible that the train keeps closed.

If trains meet on the roads, those advancing toward the enemy will pass first, and those going to the rear will halt, if there is not room to

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pass while in motion. Trains which do not leave their camps at the hours designated in orders from headquarters will give way for others that come in contact with them upon the line of march.

A surgeon or assistant surgeon will march with the rear guard of each brigade, whose duty it will be to examine every man who leaves the ranks and remains behind. If he is unable to march he will be placed in an ambulance; otherwise the rear guard will take him prisoner and force him to go forward.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MCCLELLAN'S, VA., *May* 24, 1862.

General LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General:

I respectfully request that if possible an infantry regiment be sent to the White House, on the Pamunkey, our principal depot, to remain as a guard at that place. I cannot well spare a regiment from the active army now before Richmond for this duty, and have thought that one might perhaps be furnished from the reserve regiments of New York or Pennsylvania.

Please inform me whether request can be complied with.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 24, 1862.

Major-General WOOL, *Fort Monroe:*

It is very desirable that you would send a regiment to garrison White House, on the Pamunkey, for General McClellan, if it can be done. The President is anxious you should do it, if possible, as we can send him nothing from here. Please answer.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *May* 24, 1862.
(Received 10.25 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

If Major-General McClellan cannot sustain himself with the forces he has with him and his large train of artillery he will not be able to do it with a regiment from my command. Norfolk ought to be maintained. If McClellan should be driven back, he has West Point and Yorktown to fall back upon, and at least a part of the Navy to sustain him. I do not apprehend such a result. Rumors are rife that the rebel army is leaving Richmond, and his advance is within 5 miles of Richmond.

I am preparing to ship forward my troops to Suffolk and beyond, depending on circumstances. Most of my troops are in advance of Norfolk. If General McClellan should be driven back, I shall stand

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in greater need of troops to keep Norfolk than he will to sustain himself at West Point and Yorktown, with gunboats to support him. If I had as many troops as the general, I would not ask for more. I would march and take Richmond, which I have no doubt General McClellan will do. The forces of the rebels are by no means equal to his. Deserters and contrabands from Richmond say the rebel army is leaving Richmond. They are, at least most of them, pressed into the army against their will, and not to be relied on in time of need. I cannot spare General McClellan a regiment. He does not want it.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
May 24, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: The rebels having left the navy-yard at Gosport, this Department, with a view of securing and preserving the public property pertaining to the Navy, which is exposed and deteriorating, ordered Commander John W. Livingston to repair thither and take charge of the same. I have also directed a carpenter, machinist, and others to report to him for duty. Laborers have also been ordered to service under his supervision.

As usual, a marine force was detailed for the ordinary police and military duty at the yard, but I am informed by a dispatch from Flag-Officer Goldsborough that General Wool refuses to allow the Navy to take possession of the navy-yard without orders from the President or Secretary of War.

I would therefore respectfully request that you give the necessary order to General Wool to deliver to Flag-Officer Goldsborough possession of the yard and naval property.

Very respectfully,

GIDEON WELLES,
[*Secretary of the Navy.*]

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1862.

The PRESIDENT:

Telegram of 4 p. m. received.* I will make my calculations accordingly.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 156. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Cold Harbor, May* 24, 1862.

* * * * * * *

IV. Brig. Gen. D. E. Sickles having reported to the commanding general, in pursuance of instructions from the War Department, will report to Brig. Gen. Joseph Hooker for the command of the Second Brigade of his division, Third Corps.

V. Brig. Gen. J. J. Abercrombie is relieved from the command of the

* See Part I, p. 30.

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Second Brigade of Hooker's division, Third Corps, and will report to Brig. Gen. D. N. Couch, commanding division, Fourth Corps, for the temporary command of Graham's brigade.

VI. Brig. Gen. H. W. Wessells, when relieved by Brigadier-General Abercrombie, will report to Brig. Gen. Silas Casey for the command of the brigade of his division lately commanded by Brig. Gen. William H. Keim.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Cold Harbor, May 25, 1862—10.30 p. m.

General P. ST. G. COOKE,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: It has been reported to the commanding general this evening that a Dr. Pollock, living at or near Hanover Court-House, was heard to say that a force of 17,000 men would be at Hanover Court-House to-morrow—rebel troops. The general desires you to send out one of your regiments along the road leading from your present position crossing the Totopotomoy and Crump's Creeks, in the direction of Hanover Court-House, and direct the officers in command to examine carefully all the roads leading into the road he travels; to examine all white and colored persons he can find, and endeavor to gain information regarding the movements of the enemy.

Please direct him to push forward his reconnaissance, feeling his way carefully, and keeping out scouts and flankers when he gets into a locality where he can be surprised, and go as far toward Hanover Court-House as he can with safety.

Colonels Warren and Tyler, with Rush's Lancers, are now at the Old Church, and have to-day thrown forward reconnoitering parties toward the Court House. They are on the right of the road that your command will march, and your officers should be informed that they will be likely to meet with some of these troops.

Rush's Lancers can readily be distinguished. Should your party meet with any persons who can give important information they will be sent back at once to these headquarters.

Your men should go light, well provided with cartridges, starting early in the morning, and they will probably be able to return the same night.

The facts regarding the report alluded to should be thoroughly investigated before the party returns.

Please direct the officer in command to gain all the information in his power about the movements of rebel troops along the Virginia Central Railroad during the past week.

Very respectfully,

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 128. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Cold Harbor, Va., May 25, 1862.*

I. Upon advancing beyond the Chickahominy the troops will go prepared for battle at a moment's notice, and will be entirely unencumbered.

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With the exception of ambulances, all vehicles will be left on the eastern side of the Chickahominy and carefully parked. The men will leave their knapsacks packed with the wagons, and will carry three days rations in their haversacks. The arms will be put in perfect order before the troops march, and careful inspection made of them, as well as of the cartridge boxes, which in all cases will contain at least 40 rounds. Twenty additional rounds will be carried by the men in their pockets. Commanders of batteries will see that their limber and caisson boxes are filled to their utmost capacity.

Commanders of army corps will devote their personal attention to the fulfillment of these orders, and will personally see that the proper arrangements are made for parking and properly guarding the trains and surplus baggage, taking all the steps necessary to insure their being brought promptly to the front when needed. They will also take steps to prevent the ambulances from interfering with the movement of any troops. These vehicles must follow in rear of all the troops moving by the same road. Sufficient guards and staff officers will be detailed to carry out these orders.

The ammunition wagons will be held in readiness to march to their respective brigades and batteries at a moment's warning, but will not cross the Chickahominy until they are sent for. All quartermasters and ordnance officers are to remain with their trains.

II. In the approaching battle, the general commanding trusts that the troops will preserve the discipline which he has been so anxious to enforce and which they have so generally observed. He calls upon all officers and soldiers to obey promptly and intelligently all orders they may receive.

Let them bear in mind that the Army of the Potomac has never yet been checked; let them preserve in battle perfect coolness and confidence, the sure forerunners of success.

They must keep well together; throw away no shots, but aim carefully and low, and above all things rely upon the bayonet. Commanders of regiments are reminded of the great responsibility that rests upon them; upon their coolness, judgment, and discretion the destinies of their regiments and the success of the day will depend.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 26, 1862.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

I have lost 3,000 men in the last ten days by sickness and casualties, in addition to the guards I am obliged to leave behind me. In view of the fact that I have no child's play before me, and that General Wool has no further active operations in contemplation, I would request that he may be instructed to furnish at once one regiment of infantry to garrison Yorktown and Gloucester; five companies of infantry and four of cavalry for Williamsburg; one regiment and five companies of infantry to garrison White House and the railroad. All of these points up to White House lie in Wool's department. If, in addition to this, more infantry could be spared from the Department of Virginia to cover my right, it will prevent my breaking up brigades and divisions, and give me so many more reliable men in the battle. I would ask a speedy

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reply to this that I may arrange accordingly. It will be dangerous to leave troops idle in such an emergency as this. All goes quiet.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., May 27, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

General Wool has been requested to afford you the force which you desired for garrison purposes on Saturday and in your telegram to the the President of yesterday. He feels himself unable to do so with safety to the important positions requiring to be held in his department. In order therefore to supply your wants two regiments of infantry and one of artillery, now on their way from New York, will be forwarded to Yorktown from Baltimore, to be followed by other forces if you should need them. Have you arms and equipments for any unequipped troops?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1862. (Received 12 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I am glad to learn that additional re-enforcements are on their way to Yorktown. They will assist me greatly in my operations. We have some 6,000 unserviceable arms at the White House and a supply of ammunition, but no spare equipments. I advise that, if possible, the troops ordered here come armed and equipped.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near New Bridge, May 27, 1862—2.30 p. m.
(Received 4.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Very severe storm last night and this morning has converted everything into mud again and raised Chickahominy. Richmond papers urge Johnston to attack, now he has us away from gunboats. I think he is too able for that. I communicated with gunboats yesterday by a small party. Am not yet ready to co-operate with them. Every day is making our result more sure and I am wasting no time. Rather heavy firing in direction of Porter, from whom I expect good news in a few hours. What about General Banks? Am obliged for the promised re-enforcements.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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McCLELLAN'S, *May* 27, 1862—11.20 p. m.
(Received May 28—12.20 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Stoneman has captured an engine and six cars on Central Railroad. Sent them to communicate with Porter. The railway communications of Richmond are not as safe as they used to be. Nothing new from Porter. All is progressing very well. Please prevent the newspapers from publishing as much as they do now. They give the enemy too much information. Notwithstanding the trouble, I would be glad to have them required to submit all letters as well as telegraphs to these headquarters.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 27, 1862—6.30 p. m.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

General Banks made good his retreat across the river at Williamsport, saving nearly all his trains and with small loss to his command. Reports indicate that Jackson has fallen back rapidly. Shields and Frémont are after him. It is hoped that he may yet be caught. The Manassas road from Front Royal to Thoroughfare Gap was destroyed. A strong force, under General Saxton, holds Harper's Ferry. McDowell's force has advanced toward Hanover Junction, 18 miles below Fredericksburg, but found no force in front of them. The position of Anderson is not known, nor that of Jackson. We shall, I hope, be able to send you strong re-enforcements in two or three days, if you need them, as fast as they come in from the States and transportation can be had. The Vanderbilt has been ordered around to Annapolis to receive them.

The attack upon Banks was a bold and sudden push by Jackson, that surprised the troops at Front Royal. The affair has served to quicken the spirit in the States, and will bring in fresh troops with rapidity.

It may save some time if you find that you have arms and equipments to forward them, to be armed on reaching Yorktown. I have assumed that to be the proper place to send them. But if you would rather have them at some other place, please mention it.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

McCLELLAN'S, *May* 27, 1862—8.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I find some of the newspapers frequently publish letters from their correspondents with this army, giving important information concerning our movements, positions of troops, &c., in positive violation of your orders. As it is impossible for me to ascertain with certainty who these anonymous writers are, I beg to suggest that another order be published holding the editors responsible for its infraction.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 27, 1862—10.30 p. m. (Received May 28—4.30 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Dispatches of 6.30 received. Glad to hear that affairs in the Shenandoah are not so bad as they first seemed.

If I can be informed of the number of each regiment destined for me and when it sails I will send instructions to Yorktown as to its final destination. I shall be glad to have whatever you can give me, particularly of disciplined troops. I have no spare arms. No further dispatches from Porter. I will telegraph the moment I hear again. Enemy have evidently heard the news and are stampeded—are beating the long roll in front of us.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *May* 28, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

What of F. J. Porter's expedition? Please answer.

A. LINCOLN.

McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 28, 1862.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:

Your dispatch to General McClellan this moment received and dispatched by special messenger to him. In his absence, directing operations in front, I have the honor to state for your information that the troops under General F. J. Porter marched more than 20 miles yesterday through mud and rain, fought six hours, and were at the close of the action encumbered with some 600 killed and wounded, including those of the enemy, to be buried and cared for, with 500 or 600 prisoners to be guarded, which prevented General Porter from pressing forward last night to cut the Fredericksburg and Richmond Railroad. This will be done to-morrow. The prisoners that were taken yesterday, and are here now, say that they were ordered to re-enforce Jackson via Hanover Junction, and were ordered back to Richmond. It is therefore presumed that this is the same force referred to by General King.

Very respectfully,

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

P. S.—The prisoners already taken number at least 700, I am credibly informed.

McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 28, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

A detachment from General F. J. Porter's command, under Major Williams, Sixth Cavalry, destroyed the South Anna railroad bridge

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about 9 a. m. to-day. A large quantity of Confederate public property was also destroyed at Ashland this morning.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
New Bridge, May 28, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

General McClellan is now at Hanover Court-House, where he may remain overnight. The results of the battle of yesterday, as far as ascertained, are as follows, viz: Our loss 300 killed and wounded—none missing; enemy's loss at least 500 killed and wounded. Our troops buried 100 of their dead. To-day about 500 prisoners already in and continuing to come. There were two battles—the first near the Court-House, in which the rebels were driven from their positions, and retreated some distance, when they were re-enforced and came back, and after a sharp contest they were again badly whipped and partially routed. Our cavalry and light artillery pursued and captured the prisoners. The victory was decisive, and the prisoners say will have a very demoralizing effect upon their army. These troops came from Gordonsville, and are from North Carolina and Georgia. Many of those from the former State say that they are tired of the war.

Very respectfully,

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1862. (Received 28th—6.30 p. m.)

General LORENZO THOMAS:

I urgently request that, if possible, 250 recruits be sent to this army for the light batteries, some of which are to a considerable extent crippled for the want of men to serve them. To meet the present exigency I have been obliged to transfer volunteers to the batteries temporarily, but this arrangement is not a satisfactory one, and I trust that the recruits asked for can be supplied.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S, *May 28, 1862.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I learn that there are 5,000 serviceable muskets at Fort Monroe, which will be sent at once to Yorktown. The Colonel of Ordnance has been requested by telegraph to furnish accouterments for these. There are also at least 5,000 muskets at White House, which have been turned in in exchange for better arms, and about 3,000 at Yorktown. These arms are at present more or less unserviceable, but instructions have been given for their immediate repair, and they will doubtless be ready for issue again in a few days. There are, however, no accouterments for the 8,000 muskets at Yorktown and White House, and I advise that

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the Colonel of Ordnance be directed to furnish them with as little delay as practicable.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 28, 1862—7.30 a. m.

General PORTER:

After I received your message last evening, in reply to my inquiries per Lieutenant Farquhar, I pushed on 3 miles, over a very marshy road and through thick woods to the railroad, 12 miles from Richmond. I found the railroad which I had torn up the day before repaired, and while we were destroying it a train of four cars came down, which we caught. I sent the engine and tender up to try and communicate with you, but the party got among the rebels and returned. Night coming on, I encamped on the road and sent a piece and squadron on 3 miles and until they came upon a large camp on the turnpike leading from Hanover Court-House to Richmond. I have this morning learned that the force consists of Branch's division of North Carolina troops, which has since been added to by two regiments of Georgia and one of Virginia troops from the army you defeated yesterday. The train we captured had upon it baggage and equipments from the Second North Carolina Regiment.

Under these circumstances I thought and still think best to await further instructions from headquarters. The road from the railroad to where the rebels are encamped in front of us, 3 miles, is through dense woods and over marshy ground, and altogether impracticable for the operation of such a force as I have with me—artillery and cavalry, supported by about 1,100 infantry.

Please inform me of what you have done, and your future movements, and oblige, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

GEORGE STONEMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Advance Guard.

MAY 28, 1862—1.15 a. m.

General SUMNER:

Direct Sedgwick to move with his division at daylight and encamp near Cold Harbor, and await further orders. This is merely a measure of precaution, and his division will probably return to your camp.

In the mean time you will hold the important position which you now occupy, keeping a sharp lookout upon all the movements of the enemy.

By command of General McClellan:

EDW. McK. HUDSON,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS CASEY'S DIVISION,
At Seven Pines, May 28, 1862.

CAPTAIN: In accordance with the direction of the general commanding the Fourth *Corps d'Armée*, I shall proceed to give a few reasons for what, in my opinion, is the cause of the great loss of men in my division since its organization in Washington.

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I had been engaged since September last in receiving the regiments on their arrival in Washington, and initiating them in their duties. Something like 120,000 had thus received my attention. The division which had been organized as my own was constantly being drawn upon and the best troops generally taken out. When directed to fill up my division for the purpose of taking the field I was obliged to take eight new regiments, which had arrived in Washington only a few days previous, and several of them had not been armed. I thus had no opportunity of getting rid of the incompetent officers who are always found in new regiments. I had but one general of brigade, and he inexperienced, and not one full brigade staff. I had made repeated application to have a complete organization, so necessary to the proper performance of duty. I will here mention that I was the only officer of the Regular Army who was on duty in the division, with the exception of Colonel Bailey, who was assigned to me as chief of artillery only two days previous to marching. I was not able, although I had applied several times, to procure the assignment of one experienced officer to assist me as staff officer.

The division was ordered to move a few days after the assignment of the regiments, but the movement was so badly timed that it did not arrive in Alexandria until late at night, and soon after it commenced moving.

Not being permitted to take any transportation from Alexandria down the river, on encamping about 2 miles from Newport News I found myself without any means to transport supplies for the men; that duty for several days was performed by the men. After waiting about two weeks I managed by great efforts to obtain an insufficient supply of transportation, the animals having been evidently culled over several times.

In advancing to Williamsburg the roads were in such a bad condition that I found it exceedingly difficult to keep the troops from starvation. From the orders which I received most of my division was separated from their knapsacks or shelter tents for several days. The exposure to the miasma of the Peninsula was a great source of sickness.

The Ninety-third New York Volunteers, about 700 or 800 strong, was detached from my command about ten days since. This, of course, should be deducted from the difference between the force at present in the division and that in March.

In short, I attribute one-half of the loss to the following causes:

1st. The imperfect brigade organization.

2d. The fact that eight of the regiments were almost entirely new at the time of taking the field.

3d. The incompetence and inefficiency of some of the medical, field, and company officers, and insufficiency of medical supplies.

4th. Mismanagement in logistics.

I have made every endeavor to remedy the above mentioned defects.

The other half of the loss I attribute to sickness from unavoidable causes.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SILAS CASEY,

Brigadier-General Volunteers, Commanding Division.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 131. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near New Bridge, Va., May 28, 1862.*

Second Lieut. George A. Custer, Fifth Regiment of Cavalry, is ap-

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pointed acting aide-de-camp to the commanding general, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 52. HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA, *Fort Monroe, Va., May* 28, 1862.

As the Navy are entitled to all guns and property recently taken in the several batteries in the city and vicinity of Norfolk, no officer of the Army will interfere with any disposition of the same that may be directed by Flag-Officer L. M. Goldsborough, or any authorized agent of the Navy Department, except the intrenchments and guns south of the navy-yard and Gosport.

At posts where there are troops stationed the officers of the Army will render such aid as may be in their power in removing the guns and property.

By command of Major-General Wool:

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *May* 29, 1862—10 a. m.

General R. B. MARCY,
McClellan's Headquarters:

Yours just received. I think it cannot be certainly known whether the force which fought General Porter is the same which recently confronted McDowell. Another item of evidence bearing on it is that General Branch commanded against Porter, while it was General Anderson who was in front of McDowell. He and McDowell were in correspondence about prisoners.

A. LINCOLN.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1862.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:

In answer to your dispatch of this morning I have the honor to state that several rebel officers, taken prisoners on the 27th, say they confidently expected to have been re-enforced on that day by Anderson's command. General Porter reports that South Anna railroad bridge was fired this morning, and a large amount of Confederate property destroyed at Ashland. General Porter's command is now on its march back to this place, having executed his instructions.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., May 29, 1862—10.30 a. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

I think we shall be able within three days to tell you certainly whether any considerable force of the enemy, Jackson or any one else,

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is moving on to Harper's Ferry or vicinity. Take this expected development into your calculations.

A. LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON CITY,
May 29, 1862—6.30 p. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

One of the New York regiments just arrived at Baltimore, being poorly armed and never drilled, I have directed General Dix to retain it and send forward to you one of his own well-drilled regiments.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
May 29, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The railroad bridge burned this morning across the South Anna River was on the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad. The bridge across the same stream, on the Virginia Central Railroad, was burned yesterday. The bridges over the South Anna River upon both railroads from Saxton's Station are now destroyed.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

MCCLELLAN'S, *May* 29, 1862—11.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The bridge destroyed by General Porter's troops, and mentioned in General Marcy's dispatch, was on the Richmond and Aquia Creek Railroad over the South Anna, and 500 feet in length. Later to-day another bridge on same railroad near Ashland, 200 feet long, has been totally destroyed by our cavalry.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 120. } WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 29, 1862.

* * * * * * *

4. Brig. Gen. John C. Caldwell, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to duty in the Army of the Potomac, and will report to Major-General McClellan.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

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WASHINGTON, *May* 30, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

The enemy attacked Saxton at Harper's Ferry this morning at 2 o'clock, and he is now crossing the river.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.,
May 30, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

From all the evidence and conflicting reports and statements that have been made during the last three days I am satisfied that Anderson's force has not joined Jackson.

The force under Jackson was in front of Harper's Ferry at sundown. During the night there appeared to have been a stampede, but we are still in possession there. General Saxton commands, but his troops are new volunteers, very much affected with the alarm created by the retreat of Banks.

We are greatly rejoiced at your success in breaking the railroads and destroying the bridges. It seems to me the enemy will feel that blow more heavily than anything since the evacuation of Yorktown.

I had an inquiry last night from General Mitchel, at Huntsville, whether it was true that you had taken Richmond. It seems the report is down there, and I hope and believe that I shall soon have the pleasure of announcing that great event.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS, *May* 30, 1862—9.30 p. m.
(Received May 31, 1.15 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

A contraband reports that Beauregard arrived in Richmond day before yesterday with troops and amid great excitement. I cannot vouch for the truth of this, but give it for what it may be worth in connection with evacuation of Corinth. Terrible storm this afternoon and to-night; roads again frightful. Need more ambulances.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 30, 1862.

General S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Commanding Department:

I explained to Captain Moses to-day General McClellan's views about the condition of things on your line, which he has no doubt given you. In addition to this it is proper to say that he expects you to conduct and control all the operations of the two corps now on the Richmond side of the Chickahominy River, and to give General Keyes any orders you may deem needful to insure the safety of that portion of the army. Please keep us informed of all that occurs of interest within the limits of your command.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS OLD CHURCH,
May 30, 1862.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that my whole command reached here last night about 1 a. m. The absence of the trains for rations from one or two of the regiments embarrassed us in moving from here. We shall probably set out in the cool of the evening.

We made prisoners near Ashland yesterday of 9 men of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry and 3 men of the Twenty-eighth North Carolina. We have reason to believe that there was a small cavalry force of 50 or 60 men watching. There is at this place yet about 70 barrels of flour and about 25 bags of corn meal, besides a few naval stores—Confederate property. Trains of wagons also pass this way yet for provisions. I think it would not be safe to leave a small guard here over the stores for any length of time, and even the wagon trains should have a small escort after we are withdrawn, if it is intended to use this as a route. The news of our leaving will travel very rapidly around to Richmond from Mrs. Lee and others. I found this morning that Mrs. Major Dashiell, of the Confederate Army, is also our prisoner here at the hotel, her presence having been kept a secret. She became alarmed and asked for protection and advice. She says the advance of our pickets was wholly unexpected. There may be others similarly cooped up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. K. WARREN,
Colonel, Commanding.

P. S.—I return this by the orderly who brought up instructions.

WASHINGTON, *May* 31, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

A circle whose circumference shall pass through Harper's Ferry, Front Royal, and Strasburg, and whose center shall be a little northeast of Winchester, almost certainly has within it this morning the forces of Jackson, Ewell, and Edward Johnson. Quite certainly they were within it two days ago. Some part of their forces attacked Harper's Ferry at dark last evening and are still in sight this morning. Shields, with McDowell's advance, retook Front Royal at 11 a. m. yesterday, with a dozen of our own prisoners taken there a week ago, 150 of the enemy, two locomotives, and eleven cars, some other property and stores, and saved the bridge.

General Frémont, from the direction of Moorefield, promises to be at or near Strasburg at 5 p. m. to-day. General Banks at Williamsport with his old force and his new force at Harper's Ferry, is directed to co-operate. Shields at Front Royal reports a rumor of still an additional force of the enemy, supposed to be Anderson's, having entered the valley of Virginia. This last may or may not be true. Corinth is certainly in the hands of General Halleck.

A. LINCOLN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near New Bridge, May 31, 1862.

Brig. Gen. P. ST. GEORGE COOKE,
Commanding Regular Cavalry:

The commanding general directs that you detach two squadrons of

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cavalry to proceed at once to Old Church, to take post there and to remain until relieved. From this force guards will be detailed to be placed over the Confederate property there, and also over the houses of Mrs. General Lee and Mrs. Dashiell, with instructions to prevent any communication from the residents with the rebel lines.

An officer will be sent either to Colonel Warren (Sykes' brigade of regulars near these headquarters) or to Colonel Rush near Cold Harbor, to ascertain the location of the property and premises in question.

Great vigilance will be necessary on the part of the force sent to Old Church. Scouts will be thrown well to the front and flanks to watch well the movements of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 31, 1862.

General E. V. SUMNER:

You will cross the Chickahominy River with your command and march at once to the support of General Heintzelman.

Send out strong reconnaissance to the right toward New Bridge road and Old Town.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
New Bridge, May 31, 1862—5 p. m.

General HEINTZELMAN, *Commanding Left Wing:*

You have done what I expected of you in retrieving the disaster of Casey. With the remaining five divisions you should hold your own. I will post everything during the night, so as to be able to cross at New Bridge to-morrow. Tell Kearny, Hooker, and Ord [!] that I expect them to hold firm and repulse every and any attack. Recapture, if possible, any guns taken. Keep me fully informed of all that passes. Let me send to Washington as soon as possible the news that all is right.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Seven Pines, May 31, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY, *Chief of Staff:*

SIR: I send by my aide Lieut. B. C. Chetwood, who is the aide of Maj. Gen. J. E. Johnston. This young gentleman was handsomely captured by our pickets on our right, and near the place examined two days ago by Generals Barnard and Humphreys, where the enemy was drawn up in line of battle. In connection with the appearance of this young officer on our right and near our lines, I will state that the general officer of the day, Colonel Hunt, of Casey's division, heard the cars running through the night continually.

Yesterday there was much stir among the enemy, and everything on

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his part indicates an attack on my position, which is only tolerably strong and my forces are too weak to defend it properly. Brigadier-General Sumner told me yesterday he should probably cross the Chickahominy last night. If he did so, and takes post nigh the Old Tavern and this side, I should feel much more secure than I do now.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Army Corps.

Number of men composing the Army of the Potomac on the 31st day of May, 1862.

	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate on special duty, sick, and in arrest.	Aggregate absent.	Total aggregate, present and absent.
General staff, Engineers, Engineer Brigade, cavalry division, escort to headquarters, and provost guard.	4,767	248	1,833	6,348
Second Corps (General Sumner's)	17,412	703	2,571	20,686
Third Corps (General Heintzelman's)	16,999	1,502	3,910	22,411
Fourth Corps (General Keyes')	17,132	1,074	7,111	25,317
Fifth Provisional Corps (General Porter's)	17,546	976	4,394	22,916
Sixth Provisional Corps (General Franklin's)	19,580	737	3,928	24,245
General Van Alen, Yorktown and vicinity	1,139	82	125	1,296
Advance guard	2,221	69	302	2,592
Third and Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry	1,212	33	110	1,355
Grand aggregate	98,008	5,374	23,784	127,166

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., December 31, 1862.

It is hereby certified that the preceding statement is accurately compiled from the morning report of the 31st day of May, 1862, signed by Major-General McClellan and his assistant adjutant-general, Seth Williams, and now on file in this office.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Statement of troops under the command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. John E. Wool, commanding at Fort Monroe, June 1, 1862.

	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate on special duty, sick, and in arrest.	Aggregate absent.	Total aggregate present and absent.
Department of Virginia*	11,514	1,483	1,010	14,007
Grand aggregate	11,514	1,483	1,010	14,007

*These troops were placed under the command of Major-General McClellan by General Orders, No. 57, from the Adjutant-General's Office, dated June 1, 1862.

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ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., Decemher 31, 1862.

It is hereby certified that the preceding statement is accurately compiled from the monthly return of the 31st day of May, 1862, signed by Bvt. Maj. Gen. John E. Wool and his assistant adjutant-general, W. D. Whipple, and now on file in this office.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.,
June 1, 1862—9.30.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

You are probably engaged with the enemy. I suppose he made the attack. Stand well on your guard, hold all your ground, or yield any only inch by inch and in good order. This morning we merge General Wool's department into yours, giving you command of the whole, and sending General Dix to Fort Monroe and General Wool to Fort McHenry. We also send General Sigel to report to you for duty.

A. LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.,
June 1, 1862—1.15 p. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

You are already notified that General Sigel is to report to you for duty. I suggest (do not order) that he have command of such of the forces about Fort Monroe, Norfolk, Newport News, &c., as you may see fit to put into active service, or such other command as may be suitable to his rank.

A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., June 1, 1862—5 p. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Thanks for what you *could* and *did* say in your dispatch of noon to-day to the Secretary of War.* If the enemy shall not have renewed the attack this afternoon, I think the hardest of your work is done.

Shields' advance came in collision with part of the enemy yesterday evening 6 miles from Front Royal, in a direction between Winchester and Strasburg, driving them back, capturing a few prisoners and one rifled cannon. Firing in that direction to-day, heard both from Harper's Ferry and Front Royal, indicate a probability that Frémont has met the enemy.

We have concluded to send General Sigel to Harper's Ferry, so that what I telegraphed you about him this morning is revoked. Dix goes to Fort Monroe to-night.

A. LINCOLN.

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* See Part I, p. 749.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1862.

Captain GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer, Fort Monroe:

A battle commenced yesterday between this and the rebel army, which is still undecided. Can you not order the gunboats on James River to move up as near Richmond as possible. It would undoubtedly prove a good co-operation for me. Now is the time if you expect to give me any assistance, and not a moment is to be lost.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1862.

General S. P. HEINTZELMAN:

You will move up all your available force to the support of General Keyes, leaving force sufficient to guard your left and rear.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1862—5 p. m.

General E. V. SUMNER:

The general commanding directs that you drive the enemy back opposite your front, along the line of the railroad, in order to afford effective support to General Heintzelman.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 1, 1862—6.40 p. m.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Corps:

From further information the general commanding is convinced that the dispatch sent you by Major von Hammerstein exaggerates matters. The general does not think it probable that you will be attacked in the morning, and if you are, he thinks it will not be in so large force but that you can hold the ground you now occupy. He will communicate with you frequently, and he would prefer that you do not fall back to-morrow, even if you are not attacked, until you receive orders. I will telegraph to you frequently, giving you all the information we receive. The best place for you to send dispatches is to General Heintzelman's headquarters.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BALTIMORE, *June* 1, 1862—6 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I did not look at my orders until I was on my way to Baltimore. I

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find to my surprise that I am taken from an independent position to be placed in a subordinate one. The change cannot be regarded by the public in any other light than that of a censure and a degradation. I beg you to let me take General Wool's command as it was, with instructions to send to General McClellan all the troops I can spare.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 57. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE, *Washington, June* 1, 1862.

The Department of Virginia is extended to include that part of Virginia south of the Rappahannock and east of the railroad from Fredericksburg to Richmond, Petersburg, and Weldon. Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, U. S. Army, will assume command thereof, and of all the United States forces within its limits.

Maj. Gen. John E. Wool, U. S. Army, is assigned to the command of the Middle Department, and will proceed to Baltimore and assume the command thereof.

Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, U. S. Volunteers, will proceed immediately to Fort Monroe and assume command at that point, reporting to Major-General McClellan for orders.

By order of the Secretary of War:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1862—3 a. m.

General HEINTZELMAN:

As General Sumner thinks he may be attacked at daylight, you will please hold your command ready to support him if necessary.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 2, 1862—3 a. m.

General E. V. SUMNER:

The general commanding says in reply to your dispatch that you must do the best you can to hold your own if attacked. General Heintzelman will support you, and as the river is falling, he hopes we shall be able to cross the force here so as to support from the right. If you can repair the bridges in your rear, please have it done.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 2, 1862—3.30 p. m.

General LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General:

I respectfully request that I may be informed whether the change just made in my command brings subject to my order any troops now

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posted between Richmond and the Rappahannock; also please direct the commanders of such troops to report to me at once by telegraph the location and strength of their commands.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, June 2, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

There are no troops between Richmond and the Rappahannook in advance of Fredericksburg subject to your command. The troops on the left bank of the river opposite Fredericksburg control that place. Detachments of course are kept in that place.

You will be duly advised of the ordering of all troops sent to your command.

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *June* 2, 1862—7.10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

A dispatch from General Halleck just received states as follows:

HALLECK'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 2—8 a. m.

Hon. THOMAS A. SCOTT,
Assistant Secretary of War:

It is the unanimous report that no troops left Corinth till the 29th. We have abundant evidence that the evacuation was a hurried one. Beauregard was there on the 29th, and had not been to Virginia. Copies of orders issued by him during the evacuation have been found. His troops were to move on Okolona, Ripley, and Holly Springs. The destruction of the railroad at Booneville may have partially changed the programme. The main body of the enemy is retreating slowly south through a swampy country, destroying the road and bridges behind them. The cars were almost entirely occupied in removing stores and the sick. No one has given any intimation that any troops have gone east.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

Mr. Sanford, who is acquainted with the routes mentioned by General Halleck, says that there is no probability that any troops could reach Richmond by these routes without long delay.

EDWIN M. STANTON.

WASHINGTON, *June* 2, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN,
Headquarters Army Potomac:

The following dispatch has been received from General Halleck:

CORINTH, *May* 31, 1862.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

If Beauregard has been at Richmond others have forged his signature, as I have received letters from him about exchange of prisoners, and nearly every day for the

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last fortnight. The evacuation of Corinth commenced on Wednesday and was completed on Thursday night, but in great haste, as an immense amount of property was destroyed and abandoned. No troops have gone from here to Richmond, unless within the last two days.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., June 2, 1862—8.50.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Dispatches from General Halleck represent the rebel army from Corinth retreating in great disorder to Okolona. General Pope is pursuing and harassing them with 50,000 men.

We are anxious to know more particulars of your gallant action of yesterday. Nothing has been heard from McDowell since yesterday morning, nor of Frémont. The change at Fort Monroe will give you command of more troops, and as soon as possible we shall send you more from here.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June* 2, 1862—9 p. m.
(Received June 3, 10.20 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Telegrams received. I am satisfied Beauregard is not here. Everything quiet to-day except some artillery firing heard at works on bridges. Enemy reported still in force in front of our right.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. HOOKER'S DIVISION, THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Near Casey's Camp, Va., June 2, 1862.

Capt. CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Army Corps:

I have the honor to report that I returned from my reconnaissance about 5 o'clock this p. m. I found skirting the swamp in front of Casey's camp, on the Richmond road, two roads; one leading to the railroad, the other branching toward the James River and to the south of Richmond. These were traversed for some distance—the former to the railroad—without important discoveries.

In advance of these roads the enemy appeared to have a regiment of cavalry and three of infantry, but as the latter were most concealed in the forest, it was not prudent to determine their number; it may have been much greater. Our picket exchanged a few shots.

On my return my command encamped in rear of Casey's camp, it not being possible to occupy that ground from the stench arising from the

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bodies of dead animals, and unless early steps are taken I shall be compelled to quit the camp now occupied by my command.

I intend to make my headquarters there to-morrow morning.

Kearny informs me that he has moved on to the railroad.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near New Bridge, Va., June 2, 1862.

Soldiers of the Army of the Potomac:

I have fulfilled at least a part of my promise to you. You are now face to face with the rebels, who are at bay in front of their capital. The final and decisive battle is at hand. Unless you belie your past history the result cannot be for a moment doubtful. If the troops who labored so patiently and fought so gallantly at Yorktown, and who so bravely won the hard fights at Williamsburg, West Point, Hanover Court-House, and Fair Oaks now prove worthy of their antecedents, the victory is surely ours. The events of every day prove your superiority; wherever you have met the enemy you have beaten him; whereever you have used the bayonet he has given way in panic and disorder. I ask of you now one last crowning effort. The enemy has staked his all on the issue of the coming battle. Let us meet and crush him here in the very center of the rebellion.

Soldiers, I will be with you in this battle, and share its dangers with you. Our confidence in each other is now founded upon the past. Let us strike the blow which is to restore peace and union to this distracted land. Upon your valor, discipline, and mutual confidence that result depends.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 168. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near New Bridge, Va., June 2, 1862.*

* * * * * * *

IV. In order [to] secure uniformity of action among the corps on the right bank of the Chickahominy, General Sumner, commanding the Second Corps, will, in the absence of the general commanding the army, assume command of the Second, Third, and Fourth Corps.

The general positions occupied by the corps will be those held at the close of yesterday's battle, holding the Seven Pines and Fair Oaks Station, at least by strong advanced guards, which may be intrenched. Especial care will be taken to establish perfect communication between the three corps if necessary, opening new roads practicable for artillery. To accomplish this purpose the right should occupy Golding's; the left, the road running from Bottom's Bridge toward Charles City Court-House, now held by a portion of Hooker's division. The engineers will select points to be occupied by the artillery and such as are to be strengthened by abatis, &c.

The general purpose is to hold the positions now occupied by the Second, Third, and Fourth Corps until communication can be made prac-

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ticable for crossing over the Fifth and Sixth on their right. No labor will be spared in at once rendering practicable and perfectly secure the communication now existing across the Chickahominy in rear of the three left corps—Second, Third, and Fourth.

Steps will at once be taken to supply deficiencies in ammunition, provisions, &c., as well as to organize promptly those commands which suffered most in the late battle, more particularly Casey's. A close inspection will be made by the latter without delay, and its condition reported to these headquarters.

V. Commanders of army corps will, with the least practicable delay, organize from the field batteries attached to the division composing their respective corps an artillery reserve, to consist of about one-half the whole field artillery force attached to the corps, and to be placed under the command of a suitable light artillery officer. This reserve will be subject only to the orders of the corps commander.

* * * * * * *

XVIII. Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, U. S. Volunteers, having reported at these headquarters in pursuance to orders from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, of the 1st instant, will assume command of the troops at Fort Monroe, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and in the vicinity of those places, exercising within his command the functions of the commander of a division or separate brigade.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 53. HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA, *Fort Monroe, Va., June 2, 1862.*

The Department of Virginia having been assigned to Maj. Gen George B. McClellan, and Fort Monroe to Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, and the latter having arrived to assume command, Maj. Gen. John E. Wool this day takes leave of the department which he has commanded more than nine months with pleasure and entire satisfaction.

The discipline and good order of the troops render it due to them to say that he has ever, when required, found them prompt, zealous, active, and energetic. In parting with such a command he would do injustice to his feelings were he not to say he does it with extreme regret. He, however, derives consolation from the fact that they are hereafter to be commanded by generals who can appreciate their discipline, good order, and efficiency.

By command of Major-General Wool:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
First Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. HEADQUARTERS, *Fort Monroe, Va., June 2, 1862.*

Pursuant to orders from the War Department the undersigned assumes command at this point. All orders now in force will be obeyed until otherwise directed.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

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McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 3, 1862—6 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Some firing to-day—nothing serious. Hard at work upon the bridges, removing wounded, &c. I expect at White House to-night six regiments, ordered up from Fort Monroe. These will at once be distributed among the old brigades. The next leap will be the last one.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Camp in the Field, June 3, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: In view of the very severe losses in my corps, I respectfully request that some of the troops about to arrive as re-enforcements to this army may be assigned to the Fourth Corps.

Casey's division, which has suffered so much from sickness and battle, from the lack of experienced officers, and the majority of which was not at all instructed at the opening of this campaign, has now three good brigadiers. By the addition of a few new regiments of drilled troops its *morale* and efficiency would be vastly increased.

I respectfully request that two good batteries may be assigned to Casey's division, to constitute a part of the Reserve Artillery under my command, and one to Couch's division to be a part of the reserve from his division, according to recent orders, to be placed under the command of the corps commander.

Brigadier-General Sumner has ordered all my cavalry to his headquarters, and I have sent Colonel Gregg and the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, leaving me only a few of the Eighth Illinois for orderlies and messengers. My corps now has an extensive territory to guard, and cavalry is absolutely necessary. I would be glad therefore to have Colonel Gregg and his regiment permanently assigned to my command.

In conclusion, I beg further to request that the regiments of Couch's division, the Second Rhode Island and Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania, on duty with Brigadier-General Stoneman, and the Ninety-third New York, of Casey's division, on duty with Colonel Ingalls, be relieved and returned to their respective commands.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. } HEADQUARTERS FORT MONROE, VA., *June* 3, 1862.

The following order having been received from Headquarters Army of the Potomac, is hereby promulgated:

Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, U. S. Volunteers, having reported at these headquarters in pursuance to orders from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, of the 1st instant, will assume command of the troops at Fort Monroe, Norfolk, Portsmouth,

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Suffolk, and in the vicinity of those places, exercising within his command the functions of the commander of a division or a separate corps.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

By command of Major-General Dix:

D. T. VAN BUREN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 4, 1862—2.30 a. m.

Colonel WARD,
Commanding Birney's Brigade:

In compliance with within notice be ready to attack the enemy cautiously in flank toward Fair Oaks Station. Keep your own flank secure by a regiment thrown back at right angle to your advance.

Yours,

KEARNY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

General JAMESON:

In compliance with within be ready to move up the railroad, to cross and attack the enemy in flank if he does not attack you in front. Combine with Hobart Ward. Only commit two regiments.

Yours,

KEARNY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 3, 1862—11.50 p. m.

General KEARNY,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: From information I have received I have reason to expect a formidable attack to-morrow morning. Please advance with your division at 2 a. m. in order to attack the flank of the enemy if he assails me in large force. Everything may depend upon this movement of yours. Come directly up the railroad, so as to arrive at Fair Oaks Station by daylight.

By order of Brig. Gen. E. V. Sumner:

J. H. TAYLOR,
Chief of Staff and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Camp near New Bridge, Va., June 4, 1862.

General MARCY,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

Your last note of this date I received to-night, on the Chickahominy, 2 miles below New Bridge.

The commanding general, through Colonel Colburn, had directed me to make a foot bridge over the Chickahominy to-night. I concluded that I would try to make two foot bridges, one about one-fourth mile

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below the lower trestle bridge, and one about three-fourths of a mile below that.

This great amount of work in one night made it necessary that I should call for details out of my own brigade. I have parties at work at both places, but they will not finish their work to-night at either place. At the upper place, however, I hope they will make a passable foot bridge ready for use early in the morning.

The troops of the Engineer Brigade work very willingly, and if they have not done enough it is my fault. My reports to General Barnard will show the extent of their services. Last night two companies of the Fifteenth worked all night in the rain in throwing up an infantry parapet on the south side of the lower trestle bridge. It rained this forenoon, and I did not call for much work. Two companies were sent last night to Bottom's Bridge to rebuild the bridge erroneously reported to be washed away. One company is kept at the White House, to take care of property, &c.; a detachment is left with each bridge, to watch and take care of it.

A detachment, parts of several companies, was at work this morning on the corduroy south of the upper trestle bridge, until, as the commanding officer reported, Colonel Alexander wisely, as I think, told them to stop. At the present stage of the river 400 yards of corduroy will be required over the south approach to lower bridge and about 100 yards of bridge. Only a little of this work can be done before the enemy is driven away. I hope to receive pontoons enough to-morrow or next day to make the 300 feet of bridges.

Respectfully,

D. P. WOODBURY,
Brigadier-General Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 170. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near New Bridge, Va., June 4, 1862.*

I. Instead of reporting to Major-General Dix, as directed by Special Orders, No. 168, of the 2d instant, from these headquarters, Brig. Gen. J. C. Caldwell will at once report in person to Brigadier-General Sumner, commanding Second Corps, for temporary assignment to the brigade lately commanded by Brigadier-General Howard, now absent from duty by reason of wounds received in action.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June 5*, 1862—10 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

My order of the 25th May, directing the order of march from the Chickahominy and the disposition to be made of trains and baggage, is published in full in the Baltimore American of the 2d instant. If any statement could afford more important information to the enemy I am unable to perceive it.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 5, 1862—4 p. m.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN:

May I again invite Your Excellency's attention to the great importance of occupying Chattanooga and Dalton by our Western forces? The evacuation of Corinth would appear to render this very easy.

The importance of the move in force cannot be exaggerated.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near New Bridge, June 5, 1862—8 p. m.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Major-General McClellan has received your note of this p. m.

He directs me to say to you that you will cause a reconnaissance to be made to-morrow morning in the direction of the Old Tavern, with a force not to exceed a squadron of cavalry and 200 or 300 infantry, to ascertain if the enemy is in force in that quarter. Under no circumstances does the general desire you to bring on a general engagement.

The general wishes me to add that until the crossings of the river are sufficiently completed he is not prepared to invite a general engagement. Any movement calculated to produce this result might involve disastrous consequences.

The commanding general will probably visit your headquarters to-morrow morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 171. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near New Bridge, Va., June 5, 1862.

* * * * * * *

V. Brig. Gen. G. W. Taylor, U. S. Volunteers, having reported for duty at these headquarters, is assigned to the command of the brigade of New Jersey regiments in Slocum's division of the Sixth Provisional Army Corps.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 15. } HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, THIRD CORPS,
Camp near Richmond, June 5, 1862.

I. Brave regiments of the division! you have won for us a high reputation. The country is satisfied; your friends at home are proud of you.

After two battles and victories, purchased with much blood, you may be counted as veterans.

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I appeal, then, to your experience, to your personal observation, to your high intelligence to put in practice on the battle-field the discipline you have acquired in camp. It will enable you to conquer with more certainty and less loss.

II. "Shoulder straps and chevrons!" you are marked men; you must be ever in the front.

Colonels and field officers! when it comes to the bayonet, lead the charge. At other times circulate among your men, and supervise and keep officers and men to their constituted commands; stimulate the laggard, brand the coward, direct the brave, prevent companies huddling up or mixing.

III. Marksmen! never in the fight cheapen your rifles. When you fire, make sure and hit. In wood and abatis one man in three is to fire; the others reserve their loads to repel an onset or to head a rush. It is with short rushes and this extra fire from time to time that such ground is gained; each man up in first line, none delaying; share danger alike, then the peril and loss will be small.

IV. Men! you brave individuals in the ranks, whose worth and daring, unknown perhaps to your superiors, but recognized by your comrades, influence more than others. I know that you exist; I have watched you in the fire; your merit is sure to have its recompense; your comrades at the bivouac will repeat your deeds, and it will gladden your families, and in the end will be brought before the country.

V. Color-bearers of regiments! bear them proudly in the fight, erect and defiantly, in the first line. It will cast terror into the opponents to see it sustained and carried forward. Let it be the beacon-light of each regiment. The noblest inscription on your banners are the traces of the balls.

VI. Again, noble division, I wish you success and new victories, until the cause of our sacred Union, being triumphant, you return honored to your homes.

By order of Brigadier-General Kearny:

W. E. STURGES,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., June 6, 1862.

Major-General McDOWELL:

The President directs that McCall's division be sent by water to Major-General McClellan immediately, and that you place such force at Fredericksburg by the time McCall leaves there as may, in your judgment, be necessary to hold that place.

In respect to the operations of the residue of your force the President reserves direction to be given as soon as he determines. Transportation has been ordered up the Rappahannock from here and from Fort Monroe. Adjutant-General will issue the order.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, *June* 6, 1862.

Maj. Gen. I. McDOWELL,
Front Royal, Va.:

The Secretary of War directs that you immediately put General McCall's division in readiness to be moved to the command of Major-

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General McClellan, before Richmond, and that as fast as transportation can be supplied they be forwarded by the Rappahannock from Fredericksburg. You will place at Fredericksburg such additional force as you may judge necessary for the security of that place.

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., June 6, 1862.

JOHN TUCKER.
Assistant Secretary of War, Fort Monroe, Va.:

Transports for 6,000 men have been ordered from Washington to Fredericksburg. Send from Fort Monroe enough for the remainder of McCall's division, whose total strength is 10,000 men and five batteries of light artillery. They will embark at Falmouth and descend the Rappahannock.

By order of the Secretary of War:

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
June 6, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have steamers now here to transport 8,000 men. The transports which took troops from here on Tuesday should be back to-night. If so, I can readily send enough. If not, I can order by telegraph steamers from White House, if you direct the movement to be made.

JOHN TUCKER,
Assistant Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., June 6, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Officers of your army, some of high rank, are sending details to their wives and friends, by telegraph, of the late disasters, in respect to the number killed and wounded.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June 6, 1862—noon.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Has been raining, but now stopped. River still rising. All quiet to-day. Several deserters and contrabands state that J. E. Johnston was dangerously wounded in battle of Fair Oaks and that G. W. Smith is in command. Their loss is stated at 10,000. I only know that it is very great, far more than ours.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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U. S. STEAM-SLOOP WACHUSETT,
Turkey Island, James River, Va., June 6, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN, U. S. A.:

SIR: Since taking command of naval force in this river I have made three divisions of it; one at Sturgeontown, above Four-mile Creek; another at Turkey Island, opposite Mr. Taylor's farm; and a third at City Point. Have also stationed a vessel near Old Fort (or Powhatan) and will send one to Jamestown, so that you may have the means of communicating your wishes.

I hear that some 3 miles back of Mr. Aiken's residence, 2 miles above Sturgeontown, there is a rebel force of from 3,000 to 5,000 infantry and artillery, under command of General Wise, left bank of river descending.

To-day, in passing, we were fired at from high bluff, timbered, on right bank of river. The farms on either side of bluff owned by the Messrs. Watkins; the younger in rebel army at Richmond. Contrabands say there are 300 soldiers and some artillery in the neighborhood.

I had hoped to have communicated with you through contraband from present anchorage.

The Spanish consul, lady, and others came from Charleston, via Petersburg, to City Point to-day. Nothing new could be got from them, except that two Union officers on parole said they were on an important mission, possibly their own exchange. The party expected to find the transport steamer Massachusetts. She, after waiting three days to hear from General Huger on subject of exchange of pirates and others, had left. I sent the party to Old Point Comfort to be delivered to General Dix.

The barriers or dams near Fort Darling, it is said, will require three months of unmolested labor to remove. The fort at Drewry's or Ward's Bluff is strengthened with railroad iron facings, and two other forts have been built near by.

We are ready to render any service in the good cause in our power.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. GILLIS,
Commodore, Commanding Naval Forces James River.

HDQRS. HOOKER'S DIVISION, THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Fair Oaks Station, Va., June 6, 1862.

Capt. CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Army Corps:

As the enemy's pickets manifested a little disposition to encroach on our lines to-day, a small cavalry force and two companies of infantry were sent out to recover the ground occupied by us heretofore. A little firing ensued, which resulted in a slight wound to one of our men and the killing of one horse. The object was gained.

The enemy appear to be busy in constructing field works in the open field across the swamp from us. From their numerous and strong pickets it will be impossible to obtain a knowledge of them without attacking in some force sufficient to drive in their pickets.

I forward herewith a letter received this evening, to which I replied that I would make my answer to-morrow.

I respectfully suggest that it will be detrimental to our interests for

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the enemy to visit our camp as proposed. They would see our strength, our works, the condition of the roads, &c. In my opinion it is expedient their visit be postponed.

Be pleased to have this telegraphed, that I may receive further instructions.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. HOOKER'S DIVISION, THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Fair Oaks Station, Va., June 7, 1862.

Capt. CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Army Corps:

I have the honor to submit the following report of the number of officers and men in my command fit for duty, exclusive of the Second New York Volunteers, recently assigned to me:

First Brigade:		
Officers	97	
Enlisted men	2,419	
		2,516
Second Brigade:		
Officers	102	
Enlisted men	2,163	
		2,265
Third Brigade:		
Officers	77	
Enlisted men	1,954	
		2,031
Total		6,812

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

WASHINGTON, *June 7, 1862.*

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

We shall endeavor to send you McCall's or King's division—whichever can be sent first.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., June 7, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Four regiments were embarked yesterday from Baltimore and one from here. One more goes to-day from Baltimore and one from here, making seven in all. McCall is ready to move as soon as transportation arrives at Fredericksburg.

Please state whether you will feel sufficiently strong for your final movement when McCall reaches you.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
NO. 173. } *Camp near New Bridge, Va., June 7, 1862.*

* * * * * * *

V. Brigadier-General Casey will immediately consolidate the three brigades of his division, Fourth Army Corps, into two brigades, to be commanded by Brig. Gens. Henry M. Naglee and H. W. Wessells.

VI. Brig. Gen. Innis N. Palmer will report to Brig. Gen. D. N. Couch for the temporary command of Devens' brigade, of his division, during the absence of its commander on account of wounds received in battle.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., June 8, 1862.

Maj. Gen. I. MCDOWELL,
Fredericksburg, Va.:

GENERAL: * * * The Secretary of War directs that, having first provided adequately for the defense of the city of Washington and for holding the position at Fredericksburg, you operate with the residue of your force, as speedily as possible, in the direction of Richmond, to co-operate with Major-General McClellan, in accordance with the instructions heretofore given you.

McCall's division, which has been by previous order directed toward Richmond by water, will still form a part of the Army of the Rappahannock, and will come under your orders when you are in a position to co-operate with General McClellan.*

* * * * * * *

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.,
June 8, 1862.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH, *Norfolk, Va.:*

Have the fortifications at Sewell's Point and Craney Island been destroyed or blown up; and, if so, by whose order? Davis has captured Memphis and destroyed the whole rebel fleet.

G. V. FOX.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., June 8,† 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Department of Virginia, before Richmond:

For the third time I am ordered to join you, and this time I hope to get through.

In view of the remarks made with reference to my leaving you and

* This communication entire will appear in Series I, Vol. XII. The above extract covers so much of it as relates to co-operation with McClellan.

† Another copy of this dispatch is dated June 10.

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my not joining you before by your friends, and of something I have heard as coming from you on that subject, I wish to say that I go with the greatest satisfaction, and hope to arrive with my main body in time to be of service. McCall goes in advance by water. I will be with you in ten days with the remainder by land from Fredericksburg.

IRVIN McDOWELL,
Major-General, Comdg. Department of the Rappahannock.

FORT MONROE, *June* 9, 1862—5 a. m.
(Received 6 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have sent McClellan nine of the best regiments in General Wool's late command. I sent him yesterday Fardella's One hundred and first New York Volunteers, just arrived from Washington; in all ten regiments. I shall have left only five reliable regiments for this post, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Suffolk. I have four regiments New York militia, entirely raw, and imperfectly armed and equipped; a very poor regiment from Maryland, and about 1,000 artillery and cavalry. I have not yet received the reports from the militia regiments, which are very small. I do not think my whole force can exceed 9,500 men.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 9, 1862—1 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Your telegram received. I have already telegraphed in reference to the co-operation of General Dix and myself. I also referred to Governor Stanly's policy. It is evidently misunderstood by the Northern people. Mr. Collyer has misrepresented the matter, if newspapers are correct. Governor Stanly is as sound on the Union question as you or I. In answer to a dispatch from me to General McClellan, stating that I was here, he says, "Can you not come up to see me in a special boat?" Shall I go?

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 9, 1862—5 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Three regiments on Roanoke Island; one at Washington; one at Newport on railroad, and one and a half at Beaufort and Fort Macon; fourteen at New Berne; one regiment artillery and one regiment cavalry and three batteries divided along the different commands. A large portion of the force at New Berne is on picket duty. Regiments average 600 effective men. I leave for McClellan's at once. Will telegraph you before I return to New Berne.

A. E. BURNSIDE.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 133. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near New Bridge, Va., June* 9, 1862.

I. In order to prevent marauding and the ill-treatment of the inhabitants of the country by soldiers and followers of the army, straggling or going to the rear singly or in small parties not under proper control, it is directed that until further orders, all soldiers belonging to this army, whose terms of enlistment may expire from and after this date, or who are to be discharged the service from whatever cause; all teamsters or other civil employés of the United States Government, and all servants in the employ of officers, remain within the division to which they belong, or with which they may be employed, until they can be collected into parties of sufficient size to justify their being sent to the rear under charge of a division provost guard.

II. In discharging soldiers from hospitals the surgeons in charge will be particularly careful to give them the proper passes when sent to join their regiments. The passes will give their names, companies, regiments, divisions, and corps, and, if possible, their stations.

III. At all general hospitals the convalescents of each division will be detained until a party of sufficient number can be formed, to be sent under charge of a commissioned officer, if possible; if not, then under an energetic non-commissioned officer, to the command to which they belong.

IV. The attention of corps and division commanders is called to paragraph IX, General Orders, No. 60, of February 21, 1862, from these headquarters, the requirements of which in the late battles were not observed in a single instance. The paragraph is republished, with directions for strict compliance with its provisions hereafter:

All prisoners captured from the enemy will be turned over to the provost-marshal of division, who will send them, at the earliest practicable moment, with complete descriptive lists and information as to where, when, and how they were captured, to the provost-marshal-general.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 175. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near New Bridge, Va., June* 9, 1862.

* * * * * * *

V. Brig. Gen. John C. Robinson is assigned temporarily to the command of Birney's brigade, Kearny's division, Third Army Corps, and will report accordingly, without delay.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

UNITED STATES FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Norfolk, June 10, 1862.

Hon. G. V. FOX, *Assistant Secretary of the Navy:*

SIR: Your telegram of the 8th did not reach me until last night. The President when here said to me that whatever General Wool and myself thought best with regard to destroying the works left by the

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enemy could be done, and General Wool, on being consulted, most decidedly agreed with me in opinion that in view of a possible reverse at Richmond they should be destroyed. Accordingly the casemates, magazines, and bomb-proofs at Pig Point, Sewell's Point, Craney Island, and Penner's Point, together with the log huts at each of these places, have been blown up and burned, but the parapets and embrasures as a general thing still remain, and it is not my purpose to disturb them further unless ordered to do so. In a day or two I shall ship to Washington fourteen Dahlgrens, 9-inch guns, one 10-inch, one 11-inch, and three heavy 9-pounders, with their carriages, all belonging to our Navy. The 8-inch guns and the 32-pounders worth saving I propose to send to the navy-yard, unless the Department wishes me to do otherwise. The 32-pounder rifled by the enemy I have had destroyed, and also some old 32-pounders and carronades. Removing the guns in many cases is a very laborious and tedious job. The weather here of late, having been much against us, rendered the roads very difficult of use. I congratulate the Department upon the glorious success of Captain Davis.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June* 10, 1862.
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

All quiet this morning. Considerable artillery firing yesterday. No one injured on our side. During the night it commenced to rain heavily, and has not yet ceased. The ground in such condition that artillery cannot be moved over the fields. I hope soon to see the first of McCall's division.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *June* 10, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

You probably have observed by the papers that Du Pont is operating against Charleston through Stono Creek. Hunter's force is small, and may not be sufficient to take Fort Johnson, on James Island. But Mr. Fox says that Fort Johnson is the key of the position, and, if taken, Charleston must follow. Stono is in our possession. McCall has left Fredericksburg, and is on the way to join you with his force. Have you instructed him where he shall land?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June* 11, 1862—8 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

McCall's troops have commenced arriving at White House. I have sent instructions. Weather good to-day. Glad to hear of Commodore Du Pont's and Hunter's progress. Give me a little good weather and I shall have progress to report here.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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FORT MONROE, *June* 11, 1862—10.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

I have just returned from McClellan's headquarters, where I passed about six hours. It stormed very hard all day. The roads are in the most wretched condition. I was four and a half hours traveling 9 miles. It is impossible to move artillery whilst they are so bad. But for the railroad the army could not be subsisted and foraged. The general health was improving. The officers and men are in good spirits. I will write you fully of our consultation about co-operating. I would very much like a personal interview, but feel that I cannot remain away from my department any longer unless you desire it. I would be glad to get any instructions you may have by telegraph.

BURNSIDE.

P. S.—Since writing the foregoing I have just heard from my department by a boat which left Roanoke at 7 o'clock last evening. Everything quiet.

HDQRS. ARMY OF POTOMAC, *June* 11, 1862—11 p. m.
(Received Washington, D. C., June 12, 1862—12.10 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The following is taken from the Richmond Whig of the 10th instant:

STAUNTON, *June* 9.

Governor LETCHER:

General Jackson has given Shields an awful whipping, capturing one regiment and his artillery, and driven him for miles down the Shenandoah, Frémont appeared on the opposite bank of the North and Shenandoah Rivers. Our victory to-day over Shields is complete. If General Jackson had re-enforcements he would save all. Our loss is very heavy, but the enemy's was tremendous. The cavalry is still in pursuit. Frémont has crossed the North River with a small force at Rockland Mills.

Second dispatch:

STAUNTON, *June* 9.

General Ashby was killed last Friday. Our loss yesterday was about 200; to-day much heavier. Will give you any news additional that comes to hand. Great victory over Shields to-day.

Third dispatch:

STAUNTON, *June* 9.

Frémont is falling back and blockading the road. Jackson pressing Shields. Urge forward the re-enforcements, so that he may follow up his successes.

A. W. H.*

There is reason to believe that two regiments of infantry and a battery of artillery were sent from Richmond on Sunday, the 8th instant, to re-enforce Jackson.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp at Dr. Trent's, June 12, 1862—6 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

Have moved headquarters across Chickahominy. The maps I send

*Maj. A. W. Harman, C. S. Army.

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by to-day's mail will show positions. Made reconnaissance as far as Meadow Bridge this morning. Found the enemy quiet, but in force. Some firing and skirmishing near here to-day; amounts to nothing. Weather now good. Roads and ground rapidly drying.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 12, 1862. (Received June 13—1 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

In your telegrams respecting re-enforcements you inform me that General McDowell, with the residue of his command, will proceed overland to join me before Richmond. I beg leave to suggest that the destruction of the railroad bridges by flood and fire cannot probably be remedied under four weeks; that an attempt to employ wagon transportation must involve great delay and may be found very difficult of accomplishment. An extension of my right wing to meet him may involve serious hazard to my flank and my line of communications, and may not suffice to rescue from any peril in which a strong movement of the enemy may involve him. I would advise that his forces be sent by water. Even a portion thus sent would, by reason of greater expedition and security and less complications of my movements, probably be more serviceable in the operations before Richmond. The road throughout the region between the Rappahannock and the James cannot be relied upon and may become execrable even should they be in their best condition. The junction of his force with the extension of my right flank cannot be made without derangement of my plans, and if my recent experience in moving troops be indicative of the difficulties incident to McDowell's march, the exigencies of my present position will not admit of the delay.

I have ordered back all the transports used in bringing McCall's division, that they may be ready for service if you deem it best to employ water transportation. I have to-day moved my headquarters across the Chickahominy to a central position, so that I can readily reach any point of attack or advance. The enemy are massing their troops near our front, throwing up earthworks on all the approaches to Richmond, and giving every indication of fight.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, THIRD CORPS,
June 12, 1862.

Captain McKEEVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Corps:

SIR: In answer to all queries as to my position, I have this moment returned from a thorough examination of the same. I can assure the general that it is complete, easily defended with my two brigades, and fulfills all his desires.

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I have two brigades in the position, forming a first line and half as reserves, two Michigan regiments supporting the pickets to the left and front, and four companies of Ward's brigade directly in front, ready to attack in flank any enemy approaching Hooker's left.

My battery sweeps every approach, and would materially aid an attack on Hooker's left.

The natural defenses are of little avail in our front, but are said (I have often examined the swamp) to be a reliable protection from our left to the rear. However, from the height of our left I regard it as of small avail excepting as preventing the crossing of artillery.

From the abatis, 300 yards from and nearly on a height with Hooker's redoubt, the swampy grounds extend in a semi-circle around to our left, and was the first crossed by him yesterday. I regard it as barely an impediment to the enemy. In front it is watched by four picked companies, which, with the strong Indiana marksmen, have orders to support Hooker actively.

As to myself, it is under the sweep of a battery of eight pieces, independent of a steady line of infantry in position, with equal numbers in support.

The picket line commences half a mile in our front; I should say much farther relatively in front than is Hooker's. The main line extends around to my left on the swamp, rather increasing in distance from my site on the road over which the enemy is most likely to approach, certain wood roads arriving from the upper points of the Charles City road, and circling around from the Williamsburg road, a mile or so in front of Hooker's. We are upon the enemy's pickets; we are perhaps 200 paces apart. They vary their line. We have thorough marksmen at these points, vigilant pickets, and very strong reserves—two companies on the two dangerous roads which come into a lateral road some 300 paces apart, and one company on the shortest line to the Charles City road. In addition, on this short line to the new Charles City road, the one on which General Heintzelman rode out, we have a chain of small pickets, guarding also certain branches of it to said road. We hold the new Charles City road for about one-third of a mile. This road is a short 2 miles from our left. The general rode out yesterday about 1 mile on it. It is perfectly secured. On this new Charles City road the side of it toward us is forest; then comes a strip of clearing (and many good farm-houses) 300 to 400 yards wide, and then comes a belt of heavy timber bordering the arm of the White Oak Swamp. There is said to be a crossing there. The distance between the two roads is about three-quarters of a mile. The new Charles City road comes into the main one 1½ miles from our pickets. The enemy's pickets seem in some force close to us, as toward Richmond, and as on the swamp between the two Charles City roads.

The only requisite to be desired is a supply of axes to make vistas for the artillery, especially toward Hooker. They cannot be obtained either from Hooker or Sumner. It is to be regretted.

In conclusion, I state it for what it is worth that between my first crossing and return over the nearest arm of the White Oak Swamp the water had diminished almost completely—more than three-quarters. I have given orders to our scouts to watch the swamp. It may be the cessation of the rain; it may be that the waters are being diverted.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. KEARNY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 134. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Lincoln, Va., June* 12, 1862.

I. All fast riding or driving of public horses and mules is positively prohibited, unless in cases of necessity. Trains will not move faster than a walk, except under written orders to the officer or wagon-master in charge. Officers sending mounted messengers with dispatches, which are to be carried at a faster pace than a walk, will indicate upon the envelope the gait the messenger is to take, whether a trot or a gallop. The same directions may be indicated by the seals on the envelope—one seal for the walk, two for the trot, and three for the gallop. Officers will be held responsible for the instructions they give to mounted orderlies or trains with regard to their gait.

All provost-marshals and provost guards are specially charged with the enforcement of this order.

II. The present camp of these headquarters will be known as Camp Lincoln.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE:

General McClellan desires me to say that there is a prospect of an engagement here shortly. He will telegraph you more fully in the course of two or three hours, and at any rate wishes you to remain at Fort Monroe until you hear from him.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Lincoln, June 14, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report for the information of the general commanding that I have caused to be established observatory stations on the other (the left) bank of the Chickahominy, near Hogan's house, and at Austin's house, near the mill this side of Mechanicsville.

From these points the open ground now in possession of the enemy and in front of our lines can be observed. The view extends also over the heights opposite Mechanicsville, and partially covers some of the main roads leading from Richmond and north of the railroad, such as those passing Mrs. Christian's, Old Tavern, and Garnett's house, on this side the Chickahominy. These stations communicate directly with a signal station near General Smith's headquarters.

From General Smith's headquarters to this camp I have directed a field telegraph to be extended.

The officers upon the observatory stations are ordered to report any movements or forces of the enemy within their view at 4 a. m., at 12 m., at 6 p. m., and at 12 p. m. In case of firing, to report what guns of the enemy are firing and in what direction. They are further ordered to keep a constant watch with telescopes and report. Messages can be sent hence to these stations or received here whenever it may be desirable.

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I have the honor to further report that the country on the other side of the Chickahominy and in the vicinity of many of the bridges is favorable for the establishment of signal stations, and to request to be informed what points it is desirable should be placed under especial observation.

It has seemed to me that the fire of batteries posted upon the other side of the Chickahominy could be made to cover an advance on this by signal communication, or could equally be directed by signals here upon an enemy advancing upon our lines and invisible to us, but not to the officers at the batteries.

In reference to observations to be made from the balloons prior to or during an engagement, I would state that if an officer of experience as an engineer could be detailed to make the observations, his brief reports as to the movements of an enemy invisible to him can be sent from the car of the balloon at Hogan's to the general commanding at General Smith's headquarters, or wherever on the field in front of our present position he may be in sight of the balloon, by a signal officer to be detailed for that purpose. I am of the opinion that reports might be received in the same manner from the balloon at Mechanicsville.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT J. MYER,
Signal Officer, Major, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
Camp Lincoln, June 15, 1862.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Surg. J. F. Hammond, medical director, Sumner's corps, having telegraphed to me this morning that there were some signs of scurvy in that corps, I sent Dr. A. K. Smith over at once to investigate the matter. Dr. Smith reports to me that he found six cases in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Massachusetts Regiments, in Dana's brigade, and several more acquiring the predisposition to scurvy.

General Dana informed Dr. Smith that he had been unable to obtain vegetables (such as potatoes) for his men for a long time. Paragraph 1202, General Regulations, confines the issue of antiscorbutics to the sick and then they are to be paid for out of the hospital fund. I think, however, that potatoes have been made part of the ration by an act of Congress. It is certain that vegetables are absolutely necessary to prevent scurvy, and if, as in our present circumstances, they cannot be purchased by the men, the subsistence department must supply them, or the men will become scorbutic.

I have ordered a supply of lemons and cream of tartar from White House to Sumner's corps. I have also telegraphed to Colonel Clarke to issue, if possible, potatoes, dried apples, pickles, and desiccated vegetables to the men, and have promised to furnish him with any authority he needs that I can procure.

I think the issue of the three first articles absolutely necessary, and have no doubt it will speedily arrest the disease. The desiccated vegetables are less reliable, as the men dislike to use them. They should, however, be compelled to do so. Potatoes come in this shape, and I believe the commissary has them on hand. I have the honor to recom-

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mend that fresh potatoes, fresh onions, dried apples, and desiccated vegetables be immediately ordered to be issued as parts of the daily rations, and that the commanding officers be charged with the duty of seeing them daily and properly used.

As I am closing this letter I receive the following dispatch from Colonel Clarke in reply to my telegram:

Potatoes, dried apples, and desiccated vegetables have been sent to the depot near Fair Oaks Station, from which General Sumner's corps draws its supplies. More will be sent. I do not know a single command in which Special Orders, No. 155, Headquarters Army of the Potomac, have been complied with. Could not the medical directors insist on having it carried out in their respective corps?

The means, then, of preventing scurvy have always been ready for issue in the subsistence department. The responsibility for its occurrence rests with those who have neglected to use those means. I think stringent orders necessary to compel regimental officers to see that their men are provided with and habitually use these necessary articles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHS. S. TRIPLER,

Surgeon and Medical Director, Army of the Potomac.

(Copy for General Williams.)

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
June 15, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I am just in from General Casey's headquarters.

The cessation of the rains a few days past has dried up the White Oak Swamp to a certain degree, and it is fordable in many places. If the enemy has force to spare for a diversion, Casey is too weak in that quarter.

A reconnoitering party of cavalry from Casey's camp proceeded to-day to within 2½ miles of the James River and examined the roads toward Richmond. They discovered but a few mounted pickets, and captured a horse and equipments and a carbine or two.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,

Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 15, 1862—7.40 p. m.
(Received June 16, 12.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Another rain set in about 3 p. m. to-day and has continued up to the present time. This will retard our movements somewhat, as a little rain causes the ground in this section to become soft and boggy, rendering it impossible to move artillery except directly in the traveled roads. In this arm especially consists our great superiority over the enemy, and as we will have to cut out several roads through new ground for the army to advance, then it is absolutely necessary that we should have some few days of dry weather to make the ground firm enough to

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sustain forces and guns. The brigades are progressing rapidly, and we shall very soon be ready to strike the final blow.

Colonel Key has had an interesting interview with Howell Cobb today, the particulars of which I will explain to you by letter.* It proves among other things most conclusively that they will defend Richmond to the last extremity. The interview was arranged for the purpose of bringing about an exchange of prisoners, but in the course of the conversation other matters were introduced and discussed. Six prisoners just captured from the First North Carolina State troops say their regiment arrived in Richmond a few days ago from Goldsborough with the Third North Carolina, Thirtieth Virginia, Forty-fourth and Forty-ninth Georgia troops. I think it important in view of this to hurry on transportation to Burnside.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

Statement of the re-enforcements sent to General McClellan after his disembarkation upon the Peninsula, prior to the 15th day of June, 1862.

	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate on special duty, sick, and in arrest.	Aggregate absent.	Total aggregate present and absent.
General Franklin's division	11,332	270	846	12,448
Troops sent by General Dix from Baltimore	(*)	(*)	(*)	†725
Troops in the Department of Virginia, the headquarters of which were at Fort Monroe, taken from the report of General Wool, for May 31, 1862.	11,514	1,483	1,010	14,007
General McCall's division	9,514	263	2,487	12,263
	32,360	2,015	4,343	39,441

* Not reported † Taken from the last return, before the 31st of May, 1862.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., December 31, 1862.

It is hereby certified that the preceding statement is accurately compiled from the reports of Major-General McClellan, General Wool, and General Dix, which are now on file in this office.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 16, 1862.

LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General:

I need imperatively the following new troops, and I beg that they be sent without delay: Two regiments more are required for General Dix; one regiment is required for Yorktown; from two to four are required for Williamsburg, the White House, and railroad guards. Events are

* See Part I, p. 1052.

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showing the necessity of the troops here asked for. Please let me know by telegraph whether my request can be complied with.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

McCLELLAN'S,
June 16, 1862—11.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The following just received:

HEADQUARTERS,
Suffolk, Sunday Evening.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

A deserter came into this post from Richmond. He left after the battle of Fair Oaks. He says they have sent the public records and a large amount of ammunition to Danville. Mrs. Jefferson Davis has moved into North Carolina. He says Richmond is strongly fortified, and they mean to fight to the last, and have about 130,000 men, but are on half rations, and the rank and file, many of them, anxious to get away. An Englishman who came in from there recently thinks they have 150,000 men.

MANSFIELD,
Brigadier-General.

This corresponds with the accounts I have received from various sources. Please let me know when and which direction McDowell's command will come.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 16, 1862—7 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have to request that some improvement may be made by the Ordnance Department in the fuses for the 20-pounder Parrott guns. Those now in use burn very irregularly—as likely to burst for 2,000 yards when cut for 800 as for 800 when cut for 2,000. The firing discourages us, as it encourages our enemies.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
[*Major-General.*]

FORT MONROE,
June 16, 1862—9 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The telegraph wires have been extended to Norfolk, and I now have communication with that city and Suffolk. General Viele telegraphs congratulations on the completion of the line and on the improved feeling in Norfolk. General McClellan has extended my command to Yorktown, Gloucester, and Williamsburg.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 182. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Lincoln, Va., June* 16, 1862.

* * * * * * *

III. The Cavalry Reserve and the troops under Brigadier-General Stoneman are placed for the present under the orders of Brig. Gen. F. J. Porter, commanding Fifth Provisional Army Corps, and will at once be reported accordingly by a staff officer.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MCCLELLAN'S,
June 17, 1862—4 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We will not need the wagon bodies you allude to. Our cavalry yesterday repaid the enemy for his raid of Friday night by surprising him at Ashland. Among other things retaken, a Bull Run wagon. Weather splendid. Heard this morning heavy and long-continued firing of heavy guns in direction of Fort Darling. Expect to know more about it soon.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

MCCLELLAN'S,
June 18, 1862—10.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Several deserters state that troops have left Richmond to re-enforce Jackson; that the movement began on the 8th, when two battalions went; that a regiment of cavalry preceded them, going westward, but not known whether to Jackson or elsewhere. During the past week a considerable portion of Longstreet's division is said to have followed, and two more batteries on 14th, the whole probably commanded by General Whiting. The batteries went by rail via Lynchburg. It is not known how the infantry went.

I cannot vouch for the truth of this statement, but it seems certain that the belief in Richmond and among rebel troops is that the case is as stated. If re-enforcements have gone to Jackson, they are probably in considerable force, not less than 10,000.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., June 18, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Yours of to-day making it probable that Jackson has been re-enforced by about 10,000 from Richmond is corroborated by a dispatch from General King at Fredericksburg, saying a Frenchman just arrived from Richmond by way of Gordonsville met 10,000 to 15,000 passing through the latter place to join Jackson.

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If this is true it is as good as a re-enforcement to you of an equal force. I could better dispose of things if I could know about what day you can attack Richmond, and would be glad to be informed, if you think you can inform me with safety.

A. LINCOLN.

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 18, 1862.

The PRESIDENT:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your dispatch of to-day. Our army is well over the Chickahominy, except the very considerable forces necessary to protect our flanks and communications. Our whole line of pickets in front runs within 6 miles of Richmond. The rebel line runs within musket-range of ours. Each has heavy support at hand. A general engagement may take place any hour. An advance by us involves a battle more or less decisive. The enemy exhibit at every point a readiness to meet us. They certainly have great numbers and extensive works. If 10,000 or 15,000 men have left Richmond to re-enforce Jackson it illustrates their strength and confidence. After to-morrow we shall fight the rebel army as soon as Providence will permit. We shall await only a favorable condition of the earth and sky and the completion of some necessary preliminaries.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

McCLELLAN'S,
June 18, 1862—11.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Colonel Averell has just returned from a scout to the Mattapony. A band of guerrillas he was in search of had left the day before. He destroyed the bridge, took a number of wagons and carts loaded with supplies for Richmond, destroyed a large amount of rebel grain, and took some important prisoners. As usual, he conducted the expedition most handsomely.

Colonel Gregg made a handsome reconnaissance to Charles City Court-House and recovered some of the mules driven off by Stuart. I think we are about even with Stuart now. Am at a loss to understand the reported re-enforcements to Jackson, unless the enemy are in very great strength here. We will probably know more of the truth to-morrow.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. HOOKER'S DIVISION, THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Fair Oaks Station, Va., June 18, 1862.

Capt. CHAUNCEY McKEEVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Army Corps:

The duty of obtaining the information desired by the major-general commanding in his communication of yesterday was assigned the Sixteenth Massachusetts Regiment by General Grover. It was executed in fine style. A heavy picket was run against and they attempted to make a stand, but were driven from the forest. Colonel Wyman re-

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ports with a handsome number of killed and wounded. His loss, I should judge, has been 15 or 20. Three prisoners were taken.

The district passed over is only swampy in places. Full reports will be furnished as soon as practicable.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

[JUNE 18, 1862.—For Secretary of War to Speaker of the House of Representatives in reference to the White House property, on the Pamunkey, and subsequent reports and correspondence on this subject, see Series III, Vol. II.]

HEADQUARTERS CASEY'S DIVISION,
Poplar Hill, June 18, 1862.

Captain SUYDAM,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: It has been ascertained by Captain Keenan, commanding the cavalry on duty with my division, that General Stuart, of the rebel service, with a body of 2,000 cavalry, is encamped between the New Market road and James River, about 6 miles from my position. I respectfully suggest that a force of 3,000 cavalry, with two pieces of flying artillery, be at once dispatched to report to me.

I am of opinion, from the reports of my scouts and reconnoitering parties, that Stuart's position is one that may be attacked with a prospect of success.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SILAS CASEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

WASHINGTON, *June* 19, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Yours of last night just received and for which I thank you.

If large re-enforcements are going from Richmond to Jackson it proves one of two things, either that they are very strong at Richmond or do not mean to defend the place desperately.

On reflection, I do not see how re-enforcements from Richmond to Jackson could be in Gordonsville, as reported by the Frenchman and your deserters. Have not all been sent to deceive?

A. LINCOLN.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June* 19, 1862—11.30 p. m.
(Received June 20, 1.35 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

At this time I am obliged to leave part of McCall's division to guard my communications from the White House. I beg leave to ask if I am

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to expect any new regiments soon? Such troops could protect my rear and give me McCall's division entire.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. HOOKER'S DIVISION, THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Fair Oaks Station, Va., June 19, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that from one of the forest trees a tolerably good view of the enemy's field works in my front was obtained yesterday. They have a redoubt located near the railroad; one to command the Williamsburg old stage road, and another to command a succession of clearings which extend from Casey's camp to their position, these reaching off from the camp in nearly a southwesterly direction. These redoubts appear to be connected with a continuous line of rifle pits, running almost perpendicular to the railroad.

All of these field works are located on the western border of a wheat field, and directly in advance of a dense pine forest, in which is one of the rebel camps. From a slight elevation it can be observed that they extend a mile or more. Beyond that the view is obstructed. From the density of the forest this camp would not be observed except from a side view from the east. It has not been satisfactorily ascertained whether the redoubts are garnished with guns or not.

For several days past I have been satisfied of the presence of a large number of troops in my immediate neighborhood, but it was only yesterday that I had reliable information as to their probable number or the character and extent of the enemy's defenses. This information was furnished me by Lieutenant-Colonel Potter, of the Seventy-first New York Volunteers, whose intelligence, activity, and zeal has been of great service since my division has had the honor to hold the advance of the army.

The wheat field referred to is the first cleared field we come to after passing the forest in front of Casey's camp, and is about 600 yards wide. These field works were not visible from the wheat field on the 2d instant. Troops emerging from the woods will be exposed to terrible fire, to avoid which Wyman was directed not to permit his men to step outside the timber.

I request that Private Libscom, a prisoner of yesterday, may be examined critically, for much valuable information can be gathered from him. He was sent to headquarters this morning.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 136. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Lincoln, Va., June 19, 1862.

I. The extra issue of whisky heretofore ordered will be immediately discontinued.

II. All commanding officers are enjoined strictly to enforce the exist-

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ing orders directing that hot coffee be served to the troops immediately after reveille.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *June* 20, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

We have this morning sent you a dispatch of General Sigel corroborative of the proposition that Jackson is being re-enforced from Richmond. This may be reality and yet may only be contrivance for deception, and to determine which is perplexing. If we knew it was not true we could send you some more force, but as the case stands we do not think we safely can. Still, we will watch the signs and do so if possible.

In regard to a contemplated execution of Captains Sprigg and Triplett the Government has no information whatever, but will inquire and advise you.*

A. LINCOLN.

MCCLELLAN'S,
June 20, 1862—10 p. m.

Major WOODRUFF,
Topographical Bureau:

Send Prof. [G. C.] Schaeffer to these headquarters immediately, with all the notes and memoranda he collected for Colonel Macomb concerning the Mattapony, Pamunkey, James, Appomattox, and Elizabeth Rivers; also his notes about the Fredericksburg, West Point, Danville, Petersburg, and Norfolk Railroads. If necessary, send him by a special boat. Tell him to be careful to bring everything; also any books and reports containing the information.

By order of Major-General McClellan:

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Brigadier-General.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 20, 1862—10 p. m.

Mr. FELTON,
President Philadelphia and Baltimore Railroad, Philadelphia:

Will you please send me by telegraph in cipher, and also by mail at once, all the information you have in regard to the bridges on the Charlottesville and Lynchburg, Richmond and Danville, Lynchburg and Burkesville, Richmond and Petersburg, and Seaboard and Roanoke Railroads, giving the heights, length, and nature of the structures.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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* Further correspondence in reference to Captains Sprigg and Triplett will appear in Series II.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
McClellan's, June 20, 1862—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE,
Commanding, New Berne:

How many troops could you bring to White House and leave everything secure in your present position, and what time would it require to get the disposable troops to Fort Monroe? What is the earliest moment you can move with your present transportation on Goldsborough?

Answer at once.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

Answer.

We can put 7,000 infantry in Norfolk in five days, but no artillery, cavalry, or wagons. We can land at a point on the Chowan to attack Petersburg with 7,000 infantry, twelve pieces of artillery, 250 cavalry, and enough wagons for ammunition and four days' provisions in five days.

We can move on Goldsborough at sixty hours' notice with 10,000 infantry, twenty pieces of artillery, five companies cavalry. From my present information I think we can take Goldsborough and hold it for the present, although 13 miles of the railroad between here and Kinston have been destroyed. At all events we can go to Kinston and repair the railroad and bridges between here and there. We have already built the bridges over the Trent and Batchelder's Creek, and will probably have to build one more bridge of 80 feet at Core Creek and one of 400 feet at Kinston, although the latter is not yet destroyed and we may save it.

[A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.]

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 20, 1862.
(Received June 20, 7.10 p. m.)

General J. W. RIPLEY,
Chief of Ordnance:

The Parrott ammunition heretofore furnished the 20-pounder Parrott guns sent to this army has proved unsatisfactory. The enemy thus far fire better than we can. The Schenkl ammunition we have had has, however, done well, and I consider it of the highest importance that a large quantity of that kind be sent here immediately. I shall doubtless have occasion to use the 30-pounder Parrott guns I have, and I strongly advise that, if it can be procured, a good supply of Schenkl ammunition be sent forward for that caliber.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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Abstract from Return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, U. S. Army, commanding, for June 20, 1862.

Command.	Present for duty.		Present for duty, equipped.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Field pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General staff	46	.....	.....	46	57	.....
U. S. Engineers (Duane)	4	190	194	253	288	.....
Engineer Brigade (Woodbury)	58	1,259	1,317	1,462	1,659	.....
Division of cavalry (Cooke)	90	2,048	2,057	2,336	2,765	.....
Escort to headquarters (McIntyre)	4	101	103	111	144	.....
Provost guard (A. Porter)	53	927	972	1,095	1,340	.....
Total	255	4,525	4,672	5,303	6,243	.....
Second Army Corps (Sumner's):						
General staff	11	.....	.....	11	11	.....
First Division (Richardson's)	386	7,685	8,145	8,742	10,743	16
Second Division (Sedgwick's)	380	8,764	8,681	9,706	11,521	12
Artillery (Bartlett)	14	341	355	380	480	18
Total	791	16,790	17,181	18,869	22,705	46
Third Army Corps (Heintzelman's):						
General staff	11	.....	.....	11	13	.....
Cavalry (Averell)	28	723	751	799	871	.....
Reserve Artillery (De Russy)	14	364	378	422	449	18
Second Division (Hooker's)	356	8,986	8,976	11,097	13,091	10
Third Division (Kearny's)	364	7,964	8,323	9,337	13,051	12
Total	773	18,037	18,428	21,666	27,474	40
Fourth Army Corps (Keyes'):						
General staff	7	.....	7	8	10	.....
Cavalry (Gregg)	24	619	643	701	798	.....
First Division (Couch's)	375	7,939	8,314	9,359	11,906	7
Second Division (Casey's)	248	5,042	5,248	6,680	11,134	9
Reserve Artillery (West)	15	341	356	403	481	20
Total	669	13,941	14,568	17,151	24,329	36
Fifth Provisional Army Corps (Fitz John Porter's).						
General staff	3	.....	.....	3	3	.....
Division (Morell's)	493	10,940	12,011	12,626	14,798	24
Division (Sykes')	268	5,477	5,745	6,441	7,950	.....
Artillery Reserve (Hunt)	85	2,023	2,108	2,320	2,763	109
Cavalry (Farnsworth)	42	629	671	720	819	.....
Total	891	19,069	20,535	22,110	26,333	132
Sixth Provisional Army Corps (Franklin's):						
General staff	10	.....	10	10	10	.....
Division (Slocum's)	393	8,853	9,246	9,841	11,077	18
Division (W. F. Smith's)	401	8,907	9,308	10,330	12,843	22
Cavalry (McReynolds)	44	797	841	871	981	.....
Total	848	18,557	19,405	21,052	24,911	40
Advance guard (Stoneman)	5	59	62	86	94	.....
Quartermaster's guard (Ingalls)	51	1,050	1,093	1,213	1,461	.....
Fort Monroe, Va. (Dix)	453	8,824	9,246	10,101	11,025	.....
Division (McCall's)	382	9,132	9,501	9,776	12,263	22
Total	891	19,065	19,902	21,176	24,843	22
Grand total*	5,118	109,984	114,691	127,327	156,838	316

*See also Series I, Vol. V, p. 13.

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Statement of the comparative strength of the Army of the Potomac on the 1st day of April, 1862, and the 20th day of June, 1862.

	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate on special duty, sick, and in arrest.	Aggregate absent.	Total aggregate of present and absent.
On the 1st day of April, 1862	136,444	8,848	13,127	158,419
On the 20th day of June, 1862	115,102	12,225	29,511	156,838
Difference { Loss	21,342	.....	.....	1,581
Difference { Gain	.....	3,377	16,384	.....

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., December 31, 1862.

It is hereby certified that the preceding statement is accurately compiled from the morning report of the Army of the Potomac of the 1st day of April and the 20th day of June, 1862, signed by Major-General McClellan and his assistant adjutant-general, Seth Williams, and now on file in this office.*

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, June 21, 1862—11.10 a. m.

General GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Army of the Potomac, near Richmond, Va.:

My attention has been called by the Secretary of War to the defective nature of the time fuses used with your 20-pounders. As all the paper time fuses used with the Army of the Potomac are made and carefully tested at the Washington Arsenal, I am at a loss to understand the nature of the defects referred to. Be pleased to state all the circumstances of the failure, so that I may act understandingly, and I will use every means in my power to correct it.

Mr. Schenkl is pushing work on the 20-pounder projectiles. The preparation of machinery will necessarily delay their delivery some days. I have this day ordered him to send you 5,000 30-pounder projectiles with all possible dispatch.

JAS. W. RIPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

MCCLELLAN'S,
June 21, 1862—2 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I would respectfully request that no persons be permitted to visit White House or the corps of this army except upon strictly military duty. All the means of railway transportation are required to supply

* See also Series I, Vol. V, p. 13.

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the troops, and it is with the utmost difficulty that the object can be accomplished. The arrival of visitors also distracts the attention of officers from their duties at a moment when their whole efforts are required in attending to their duty. In the event of a battle or a mere skirmish the presence of visitors is a very serious inconvenience. I am not willing to be responsible for their safety.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding Army.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., June 21, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

Your telegrams received. All passes that have been granted by this Department are made subject to your regulation, so that your order to the master of transportation will prevent the passage of any one who has heretofore obtained a pass, and I have directed that none shall in future be given except to persons on military service.

I am informed that the Sanitary Commission are freely giving passes, but without any sanction from the Department. You are authorized to make any regulation, however stringent, that will exclude persons not in the service from your lines.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

McCLELLAN'S, VA.,
June 21, 1862—9.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The Richmond Dispatch of to-day has the following:

MONTGOMERY, ALA., *June 17.*

General Beauregard and staff are here on their way to Richmond. We hear that a large portion of the Army of the Mississippi will soon follow the general.

A sufficient force will be left with the invincible Bragg to check any advance which the vandals under General Halleck may attempt to make toward the interior.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S,
June 21, 1862—12 m.

General RIPLEY:

The supply of battery stores is rapidly becoming exhausted, and unless orders for issue to Lieutenant Harris have been given, of which I have no knowledge, I have to request a renewal of the artillery supplies asked for heretofore in April and May.

C. P. KINGSBURY.

McCLELLAN'S,
June 22, 1862—4.30 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I am informed that General James has now completed two batteries of bronze rifled guns and one battery of steel rifled guns, all 3.80-inch caliber.

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These guns have been tried by officers in whom I have confidence, and I should be glad to have you order them for this army as early as practicable.

I applied for these guns during Mr. Cameron's administration, but could not get them.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 22, 1862—1.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Some sharp attempts of the enemy last evening and night to drive in Hooker's pickets. They certainly failed and were driven back, with what loss we cannot tell. Our loss 1 killed and 4 wounded. Nothing else of interest. Intercepted letters state that Beauregard was expected in Richmond a few days since.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
June 22, 1862—4.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

James is not known as a manufacturer of guns, and it is not known that he makes any pretension to having invented one. Ames, of Chicopee, manufactures guns, and is the manufacturer of James' projectile, about the merits of which there are conflicting reports, and the purchase of which you declined to recommend last spring. You will recollect that these are the guns and projectiles bought last summer by the State of Illinois at an extravagant price, the job creating great scandal. Where are the guns to which your telegram refers? There is no proposal for their sale on the files of this Department. Who has offered them to you?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

McCLELLAN'S,
June 22, 1862—5.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

In my dispatch of to-day I omitted to ask you to have the proper amount of ammunition ordered with the James guns. If the guns are sent the ammunition must be procured from General James, as it is peculiar.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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McCLELLAN'S,
June 22, 1862—7.25 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch of 4.30 p. m. to-day received. The guns referred to are rifled cannon, which General Charles F. James claims to have invented as perfectly adapted to his patent projectile. They are manufactured by Ames, of Chicopee, Mass.

A member of my staff, who is a good artillery officer, experimented with these guns and James' patent projectiles in December last, and pronounced them the best he had seen. They are highly recommended by other officers, and are said to have been the most efficient of all those used in the siege of Fort Pulaski. We have experienced much trouble with many of our new pattern projectiles, and my only object is to secure the best for the service. I have no recollection of having ever declined to recommend the purchase of these guns or projectiles, but I have, as I mentioned in my dispatch of to-day, a distinct remembrance of having recommended the purchase of them in January last, and that Mr. Cameron declined to make the purchase. General James informed me that he has the guns now ready, with projectiles. With these remarks I leave the matter in your hands.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 22, 1862.

Brigadier-General RIPLEY,
Chief of Ordnance:

I am directed by Major-General McClellan to reply to your dispatch of yesterday. The fuses most complained of are the paper-case time-fuse, though in many instances the Bormann fuse does not give the satisfaction we ought to expect. The paper-case fuses of short time—say up to seven or eight seconds—burn with proper regularity, but those of longer time are very uncertain; twelve seconds often burning no longer than five or six seconds, and fifteen or sixteen seconds frequently proving of shorter time than either. This happens so often that it has occurred to me that careless mistakes have been made in marking the time on the outside of the cases. The 20-pounder Parrott projectiles are again working very badly. In very many cases they fail to take grooves, and perform quite as uncertainly as they did at Washington last September—Captain Benton will remember. Can it be possible that the projectiles condemned at that time and turned into the arsenal are now accidentally reissued? Please let us have as much of Schenkl projectiles for our rifled guns of every description, siege as well as field, as possible. I will write by mail more at length to-day.

WILLIAM F. BARRY,
Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,
Camp near New Bridge, Va., June 22, 1862.

Brig. Gen. P. ST. GEORGE COOKE,
Commanding Cavalry Reserve:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to inform you that it is reported by a deserter that another raid is in process of prep-

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aration by the enemy, where or when to be made he could not say. General Reynolds reports that some camps opposite Meadow Bridge seem temporarily deserted, though left standing. The commanding general desires that you will take every means to obtain the earliest possible information of any movements the enemy may attempt. He wishes further that you should push your patrols to watch the roads crossing the Pamunkey, and also to keep your command well in hand for prompt action in any quarter. He further directs that any information you may obtain should at once be communicated to these headquarters. If any intimation of a movement beyond the Pamunkey should be obtained, the general would like to have the patrols push their investigations across that river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Lincoln, June 22, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: In reply to the circular of June 19 I have the honor to state that the following acting signal officers have been exposed under fire while in the discharge of their duties during the present campaign:

At the siege of Yorktown: First Lieut. William S. Stryker, Twelfth Virginia Volunteers; First Lieut. William B. Roe, Sixteenth Michigan Volunteers; First Lieut. N. Daniels, Third Wisconsin Volunteers; First Lieut. James S. Hall, Fifty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers; First Lieut. Charles S. Kendall, First Massachusetts Volunteers; Second Lieut. Frederick W. Owen, Thirty-eighth New York Volunteers; Second Lieut. Daniel S. Tompkins, Fifth Michigan Volunteers; Second Lieut. Charles W. Keen, Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers; Second Lieut. W. G. McCreary, One hundred and second Pennsylvania Volunteers; Second Lieut. George J. Clark, Sixty-second New York Volunteers; Second Lieut. Charles H. Carey, Third Michigan Volunteers; Second Lieut. Alexander M. Wright, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry; Second Lieut. F. W. Butler, Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers; Second Lieut. Israel Thickstun, Eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers; Second Lieut. A. B. Jerome, First New Jersey Volunteers; Second Lieut. E. A. Denicke, Cameron Rifle Regiment New York Volunteers; Second Lieut. Henry L. Johnson, Fifth Connecticut Volunteers.

At engagement at Lee's Mill: First Lieut. Charles S. Kendall, First Massachusetts Volunteers; First Lieut. George H. McNary, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; Second Lieut. Isaac Beckett, Fifty-sixth New York Volunteers; Second Lieut. W. H. R. Neel, Fifty-fourth [Ninety-Fifth] Pennsylvania Volunteers; Second Lieut. Frederick Horner, Sixth New Jersey Volunteers; Second Lieut. N. Henry Camp, Fourth New Jersey Volunteers; Second Lieut. Charles T. Dwight, First Excelsior Regiment New York Volunteers.

At battle of Williamsburg: First Lieut. B. F. Fisher, Third Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; First Lieut. Charles Herzog, [Forty-first] Regiment De Kalb New York Volunteers; First Lieut. Joseph Gloskosky, Twenty-ninth New York Volunteers; Second Lieut. F. W. Marston, Fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers; Second Lieut. William H. R. Neel, Fifty-fourth [Ninety-fifth] Pennsylvania Volunteers.

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At battle of West Point: First Lieut. Paul Babcock, jr., Seventh New Jersey Volunteers; First Lieut. D. E. Castle, Nineteenth Indiana Volunteers; First Lieut. Ernst Kurlbaum, Fifty-eighth New York Volunteers; Second Lieut. John W. De Ford, Eleventh Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; Second Lieut. Frederick W. Owen, Thirty-eighth New York Volunteers.

At skirmish at Mechanicsville: First Lieut. George H. McNary, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; First Lieut. D. E. Castle, Nineteenth Indiana Volunteers; First Lieut. Charles S. Kendall, First Massachusetts Volunteers; Second Lieut. Isaac Beckett, Fifty-sixth New York Volunteers.

At battle of Hanover Court-House: First Lieut. L. B. Norton, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; First Lieut. George H. McNary, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; First Lieut. Joseph Gloskosky, Twenty-ninth New York Volunteers; Second Lieut. Frederick Horner, Sixth New Jersey Volunteers; Second Lieut. F. W. Marston, Fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

At signal station near New Bridge: Second Lieut. J. C. Wiggins, Third New Jersey Volunteers; Second Lieut. N. Henry Camp, Fourth New Jersey Volunteers.

At signal station with General Burns' pickets near Golding's house: Second Lieut. E. A. Denicke, Cameron Rifle Regiment New York Volunteers.

In each case the officers above mentioned have performed their parts with commendable coolness and alacrity.

The services rendered entitle the following officers to especial mention.

For important duty faithfully performed in keeping up communication day and night between the General Headquarters Army of the Potomac and the naval squadron in York River during the siege of Yorktown, for a period of twenty-eight days, the following-named officers: First Lieut. William B. Roe, Sixteenth Michigan Volunteers, in charge of signal station at headquarters, under fire April 30 at Battery No. 1; Second Lieut. John W. De Ford, Eleventh Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, in charge of squadron detail and on flag-ship Wachusett, since captured on James River and now a prisoner of war at Salisbury, N. C.; Second Lieut. John F. Robbins, Ninety-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, at signal station at headquarters; First Lieut. Henry R. Clum, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers, on flag-ship Wachusett.

For service in engagement at Lee's Mill, maintaining communication across a field swept by the enemy's fire: First Lieut. George H. McNary, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, station near battery; Second Lieut. Isaac Beckett, Fifty-sixth New York Volunteers, stationed with the advance; Second Lieut. Frederick Horner, Sixth New Jersey Volunteers, with the commanding general; Second Lieut. N. Henry Camp, Fourth New Jersey Volunteers, with the commanding general; Second Lieut. Charles T. Dwight, First Excelsior Regiment New York Volunteers.

No record of messages was kept, and I have no data by which to judge as to the importance of above service. Messages were transmitted for General McClellan and General Smith.

For important service skillfully rendered at the battle of Williamsburg in opening, by the order of Major-General McClellan, communication, at night and in the rain, between the gunboats lying in York River and the army bivouacked upon the field of battle, and also maintaining this communication so long as was necessary: First Lieut. B. F. Fisher,

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Third Pennsylvania Reserve Corps; First Lieut. Henry R. Clum, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers; First Lieut. Paul Babcock, jr., Seventh New Jersey Volunteers; Second Lieut. William H. R. Neel, Fifty-fourth [Ninety-Fifth] Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Second Lieut. Charles T. Dwight, First Excelsior Regiment New York Volunteers.

For important service at the battle of West Point, in establishing, during the engagement, signal communication between the headquarters of the general commanding the forces upon the field of battle and the gunboat flotilla, and so maintaining it as to direct, by order of General Franklin, the movements of the gunboats and their range of fire upon the enemy: First Lieut. Paul Babcock, jr., Seventh New Jersey Volunteers, on gunboat Maratanza; First Lieut. Ernst Kurlbaum, Fifty-eighth New York Volunteers, with General Slocum; First Lieut. D. E. Castle, Nineteenth Indiana Volunteers, with General Franklin; Second Lieut. John W. De Ford, Eleventh Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, on flag-ship Wachusett; Second Lieut. Frederick W. Owen, Thirty-eighth New York Volunteers, on gunboat Sebago.

At the skirmish at Mechanicsville communication was established under fire and information given to General Stoneman as to the movements and success of General Davidson's brigade; not of importance.

For meritorious service and gallant conduct at the battle of Hanover Court-House, in opening and maintaining communication on the field of battle under artillery and musketry fire, directing the fire of our batteries upon the enemy, conveying information to General F. J. Porter as to the movements of our forces and of the enemy, and preventing (as officially reported) the fire of a United States battery from being turned by mistake upon one of our own regiments: Second Lieut. F. W. Marston, Fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, with the advance; Second Lieut. Frederick Horner, Sixth New Jersey Volunteers, at battery; First Lieut. George H. McNary, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, near commanding general; First Lieut. Joseph Gloskosky, Twenty-ninth New York Volunteers, in advance; First Lieut. L. B. Norton, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, with commanding general; Second Lieut. Israel Thickstun, Eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, on left flank.

Second Lieut. Israel Thickstun, Eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, was stricken senseless by a fragment of a shell while reconnoitering and reporting upon the enemy's movements at signal station near Moore's house, Yorktown.

First Lieut. L. B. Norton, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, acting quartermaster and acting ordnance officer, has throughout the campaign discharged the onerous duties of his position with a care and faithfulness which entitle him to commendation.

First Lieut. B. F. Fisher, Third Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, and Second Lieut. Henry L. Johnson, Fifth Connecticut Volunteers, in charge of parties from the date of the departure of this army from Washington, have labored zealously to render them available for their duties.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,*

ALBERT J. MYER,
Signal Officer, Major, U. S. Army.

POPLAR HILL, *June* 23, 1862.

Captain SUYDAM,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: Immediately upon receipt of the telegram from the major-

*See also Part I, p. 221.

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general commanding ordering a cavalry reconnaissance down the Chickahominy a company properly instructed were sent out by me in the direction of Long Bridge and are now absent.

Small parties were dispatched this morning at an early hour upon the roads to my left. One of them, under charge of Captain Keenan, accompanied by Lieutenant West, of my staff, has just returned. They proceeded a distance of about 2 miles on the Charles City road in a westerly direction, then, turning to the left, followed the Quaker road, so called, a distance of about 6 miles, to within sight of James River. Nothing unusual was detected.

Captain Smyth, in charge of another party, fell in with the enemy's mounted pickets about 8 o'clock this morning on a road running parallel with James River, and was fired upon. This point is a regular picket post of the enemy, who seems to have men there to observe and report the movements of the gunboats.

I will take the liberty to remark that in my opinion it is a dereliction of duty on the part of the gunboats to permit the enemy's pickets to skirt the shores of the river and his forces to lie quietly encamped within range of their guns.

I am about sending a detachment under Captain Keenan, in whose prudence and energy I place confidence, directly across the country to the river. He will soon be able to ascertain whether a force has passed or is passing.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SILAS CASEY,
Brigadier-General Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HDQRS. HOOKER'S DIVISION, THIRD ARMY CORPS,
Camp near Fair Oaks Station, Va., June 23, 1862.

Capt. CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Army Corps:

By my roster it will be the duty of Sickles' brigade to go on picket service at 4 o'clock p. m. to-day. For the three last tours of duty of this character this brigade has been able to turn out but about 1,700 men. I deem this number as insufficient, and as my other brigades are exhausted in the performance of their own share of this duty, I respectfully request that 600 men from some other camps may be ordered to re-enforce Brigadier-General Sickles for twenty-four hours, commencing at 4 o'clock; and if this cannot be done from the Third Corps, I request that this application may be sent to general headquarters.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

JUNE 23, 1862—8.45 p. m.

Capt. CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER:

Have this moment returned from the front. At one time our whole line of pickets was thrown well forward, and when night came the right remained so, but the left, from causes which I do not know so well, but which Grover says he can explain to my satisfaction, was withdrawn, to prevent being cut off by rebel regiments.

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As soon as the fact was communicated, I gave directions for the line of pickets to be re-established and to advance. This was not done in season to bring up our left with the right, and fearing that the latter would be too much exposed from its advanced position I gave directions to establish itself on our old line. Will forward Grover's report as soon as I receive it. Very little resistance was offered to the advance, though the pickets seemed to be numerous, but avoided collision.

I am of the impression that the enemy in front is weak to-day. From both of my lookouts we have not been able to see to exceed five regiments. The rebel camps are all standing. We could see no troops in them or occupying their earthworks. Not a piece of artillery was fired on us nor was a piece seen by any one. Please forward this to General Marcy at once.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 23, 1862—4 p. m.

Captain GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer, Fort Monroe:

Have the gunboats which I asked you for some days since, and which you expected soon, yet arrived and been sent to White House?

It is a matter of great importance that this additional protection should be given to our depots at the earliest practicable moment.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 23, 1862—10.50 p. m.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch of 10.45 received. Your dispositions of your troops are approved by the commanding general.

You will please hold a portion of your force in reserve to watch your right flank toward Walnut Grove, Bethesda Church, &c.

Send patrols at once along the line of the Chickahominy to ascertain whether the enemy are building bridges, and if they are doing so send a sufficient force of reliable infantry to attack them unexpectedly and drive them off.

Send during the night any information you may gain, and after daybreak at least every half hour.

If you are attacked be careful to state as promptly as possible the number, composition, and position of the enemy. The troops on this side will be held ready either to support you directly or to attack the enemy in their front.

If the force attacking you is large the general would prefer the latter course, counting upon your skill and the admirable troops under your command to hold their own against superior numbers long enough for him to make the decisive movement which will determine the fate of Richmond.

Do not lose sight of the absolute necessity of keeping me constantly and fully informed of everything which occurs in your front.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 189. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp Lincoln, Va., June 23, 1862.*

* * * * * * *

VIII. Brig. Gen. Silas Casey will proceed without delay to the White House and take charge of that important depot, including the protection of the railway and telegraphic communications between that point and the Army of the Potomac. All the troops at the White House and upon the railway will be so disposed of by General Casey as best to insure the safety of our supplies and their prompt and secure transmission to the army. He will furnish the guards required for the protection of the public property at the depots of the staff departments at the White House, but will not exercise any control over the management of these depots or over the officers connected with them. General Casey will assume the general charge of the hospitals at the White House. He will cause the convalescents who are unable to rejoin their regiments to be armed for defense in case of attack. He will exercise the utmost vigilance to discover malingerers and stragglers from the troops at the front who may be in his vicinity or who may endeavor to pass to the North, and will seize all such and send them to their regiments under guard.

IX. Brig. Gen. John J. Peck, volunteer service, is assigned to the command of the division lately commanded by Brigadier-General Casey.

X. Brig. Gen. A. P. Howe, volunteer service, having reported for duty at these headquarters, pursuant to instructions from the War Department, will report to Brigadier-General Keyes, commanding Fourth Corps, for assignment to the brigade heretofore commanded by Brig. Gen. J. J. Peck.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 24, 1862—12.30 a. m.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER:

The contrabands that came in to-day say that the troops are intending to cross the Chickahominy the first stormy night about 20 rods below Meadow Bridge, under cover of the woods.

Please have that section of the river well examined to-night.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 24, 1862—1 a. m.

Generals SUMNER, HEINTZELMAN, KEYES, SMITH:

There are some indications of the enemy's intending to cross the Chickahominy near Meadow Bridge to-night. You will please have your command under arms at daybreak this morning, and be ready to move if called upon.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

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JUNE 24, 1862.

Capt. CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER:

All the information from our lookouts to-day confirm my opinion of yesterday, that the rebel force in my front is considerably reduced. A portion of their camp has been removed to-day. The pickets have been unusually quiet all day.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 24, 1862—1 a. m.

General SUMNER:

The general commanding desires you to advance your pickets, if you have not already done so, in front of Richardson, on the right of the railroad, as far as the opening of it can be done, with the support of one brigade, without bringing on a general engagement. He wishes this done this morning, if practicable, under the conditions specified. If you advance your pickets inform General Hooker beforehand.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
June 24, 1862.

General MARCY, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I was mistaken this morning; the skirmish was between Richardson's pickets and the enemy. It ended by throwing a few case-shot upon the enemy. I regret extremely to report that some of our pickets are behaving very badly, and it seems to me they are getting worse and worse.

Please get an answer to my note in the night about advancing my pickets. I think it will bring on an engagement, for I do not see how I can withdraw a brigade after it is engaged.

I would respectfully suggest whether we cannot learn the position of the enemy better with intelligent scouts than by driving in their pickets before we are ready to make a general advance. Please answer by bearer.

Very respectfully,

E. V. SUMNER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 24, 1862—12 m.

General E. V. SUMNER:

All that the commanding general wishes you to do is to connect the left of your pickets with the right of Hooker's as those of the latter advance. It will not be necessary for the center and right of your pickets to go forward at all, and the commanding general thinks a regiment opposite that part of your left line of pickets which advances will be sufficient to support them in case of resistance. He also thinks

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that your center and right are more likely to be attacked than the left. You will not, therefore, take any of your troops to support Hooker without orders from these headquarters.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

GUNBOAT GALENA,
Off Jamestown, June 24, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

The railroad bridge over Swift Creek is 250 feet long. I will attempt to destroy it when you wish. It should be done a short time before you make your attack. I shall try by night with row-boats. Can you indicate when to do it?

JOHN RODGERS,
Commander, U. S. Navy.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Lincoln, June 24, 1862—6 p. m.

Com. JOHN RODGERS:

Dispatch received. If you can effectually destroy the bridge in question the sooner it is done the better. They cannot replace a bridge of that length in many weeks, and I am about to commence decisive measures. Circumstances force me to begin my attack at some distance from the oxide.* In a few days I hope to gain such a position as to enable me to place a force above Ball's and Drewry's Bluffs, so that we can remove the obstructions and place ourselves in communication with you so that you can co-operate in the final attack. In the mean time please keep some gunboats as near Drewry's Bluff as prudence will permit. Within the next two or three days I hope to be within range of oyster.* By that time I hope to see you in person to arrange our movements. I will inform you fully how I progress.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

CAMP LINCOLN,
June 24, 1862—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HEINTZELMAN,
Commanding Third Corps:

Dispatch of 6 p. m. received.† If it is a possible thing, take advantage of the weakness of the enemy and push your pickets at least to the edge of the next clearing. Please give your personal attention to this, and arrange with General Sumner so that he may maintain constant connection.

I have been all over the right to-day and will open with heavy guns to-morrow. To-morrow night I hope to gain possession of the Garnett field, and by another day of the Old Tavern and some ground in advance. It will be chiefly an artillery and engineer affair.

Keep your command as fresh as possible, ready for another battle.

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* Words not deciphered; probably stand for River and Richmond.
† Not found.

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I cannot afford to be without Heintzelman, Kearny, and Hooker in the last effort.

I have satisfactory communications from the gunboat fleet in James River.

They have done an immense amount of work on our right, but seem to be deceived as to our intentions. All looks well.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 24, 1862—11 p. m.

General WILLIAM F. SMITH:

The general commanding wishes you, when Porter commences firing to-morrow, to watch the effect, with your men ready, and if you should see an opportunity by which you think you can with safety advance, to communicate with Porter by signals, telling him where to direct his guns, and also inform him from time to time what effect they produce, if you perceive any.

Myer will be directed, if he has not already done so, to establish signal communication with Porter and you. Please inform General Franklin of this, that his division may be ready.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 25, 1862—10.30 a. m.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER:

Have your command under arms ready to move as circumstances may require.

Fighting still in front of Hooker.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 25 [?], 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Everything very quiet to-day. I hope to open on enemy's batteries to-morrow morning and to gain important advantages within forty-eight hours—not however bringing us to Richmond, but somewhat nearer, and improving our position. It is again raining, but this will not probably defer movements.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Redoubt No. 3, *June* 25, 1862—5 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The affair is over, and we have gained our point fully and with but little loss, notwithstanding strong opposition. Our men have done all

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that could be desired. The affair was probably decided by two guns that Captain De Russy brought gallantly into action under very difficult circumstances. The enemy driven from his camps in front of this and all now quiet.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 25, 1862—5.20 p. m.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER:

General McClellan says tell Porter that the work is done. Secesh driven from his camps. Success complete.

I think we have occupied a new and advantageous line for our pickets. Stop firing unless you have some particular object.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 25, 1862—5.25 p. m.

General S. P. HEINTZELMAN:

The general commanding desires you to regard your new line in front as merely a picket line, and your intrenchments as your true field of battle. If your pickets should be hard pressed they should fall back to the intrenchments slowly.

He also wishes you to cut out as much of the timber in the front of your works as possible to-night, so as to increase the range for the artillery.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 25, 1862—5.25 p. m.

General SUMNER:

The general commanding desires you to regard your new line in front as merely a picket line, and your intrenchments as your true field of battle. If your pickets should be hard pressed they will fall back slowly to the intrenchments, firing as they retire.

He also wishes you to cut away as much of the timber as possible in front of your works, so as to give you a more open space on your front.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 25, 1862—7 p. m.

Maj. Gen. AMBROSE E. BURNSIDE,
New Berne, N. C.:

Reports from contrabands and deserters to-day make it probable that Jackson's forces are coming to Richmond and that a part of Beauregard's force have arrived at Richmond. You will please advance on Goldsborough with all your available forces at the earliest practicable

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moment. I wish you to understand that every minute in this crisis is of great importance. You will therefore reach Goldsborough as soon as possible, destroying all the railroad communications in the direction of Richmond in your power.

If possible, destroy some of the bridges on the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad and threaten Raleigh.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

McCLELLAN'S,
June 25, 1862—8 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

The following has just this moment received:

A contraband who came into our lines under the fire of our guns to-day says he saw Beauregard and his troops arrive in Richmond.

F. J. PORTER,
Brigadier-General.

This only serves to corroborate previous information received from several sources to-day.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 25, 1862—8.30 p. m.

General SILAS CASEY, *White House:*

Information has been received here that the enemy design attacking our communications. Please send out cavalry reconnoitering parties from Tunstall's Station to-morrow morning, both above and below the railroad, and direct them to give you timely notice of any approach of rebel forces toward your position, and report to these headquarters all important information you may get regarding the enemy's movements. It is said that Jackson is coming from Gordonsville with the intention of attacking our right flank soon; therefore be vigilant.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

PORTER'S HEADQUARTERS, *June* 25, 1862—10.30 p. m.
(Received June 26—2.22 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I need some new regiments at once to re-enforce garrison of Yorktown and White House. Another division of old troops would be invaluable. Also a couple of new regiments of cavalry.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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PORTER'S HEADQUARTERS, *June* 25, 1862—10.40 p. m.
(Received June 26—3 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The information I received on this side tends to confirm impression that Jackson will soon attack our right and rear. Every possible precaution is being taken. If I had another good division I could laugh at Jackson. The task is difficult, but this army will do its best, and will never disgrace the country. Nothing but overwhelming forces can defeat us. Indications are of attack on our front to-morrow. Have made all possible arrangements.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

JUNE 25, 1862.

General McCLELLAN,
At Porter's Headquarters:

The following received. What shall I say to Generals Sumner and Heintzelman?

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEINTZELMAN'S, *June* 25, 1862—9 p. m.

General MARCY:

General Robinson, after he had been re-enforced by a portion of General Birney's brigade, recovered the little ground he had lost and drove the enemy back. We occupy our line of the forenoon, but the rebels are not quite so far back, and seem to be in considerable force in front of General Robinson. The enemy have four pieces of artillery on the Williamsburg road in position. Have advanced it half way across the clearing, and have a large infantry force to support it. There is a strong prospect of their attacking us in the morning. I think General Sumner should have at least a brigade to the left of the railroad to support his picket line, and should push his picket line forward to connect with mine. It is now near half a mile to the rear.

S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Brigadier-General.

JUNE 25, 1862—11.

Brigadier-General HEINTZELMAN:

General McClellan desires that you hold the position you now have, if it can be done without undue danger. His order for you to fall back was based on the dispatch from you, that you were too hard pressed. Re-enforcements are being sent up, and General McClellan will start at once.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS,
June 25, 1862.

General PHILIP KEARNY:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that the instructions from Headquarters Army of the Potomac (inclosed) be fully carried out, and if the troops have to fall back that they avoid masking the batteries, so as to give them full play.

Yours, respectfully,

I. MOSES,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 25, 1862.

General HEINTZELMAN:

If an attack is made in force on your line you must receive it in your intrenchments, your pickets only to give you warning, and only supported sufficiently to prevent them from being driven in by a small force. If they are attacked by a large force they must at once fall back to the intrenchments, leaving full play for the artillery and musketry in the intrenchments. One-half of your force should be placed in reserve, to strengthen points most vigorously attacked. The general commanding thinks that the mass of Palmer's and Birney's brigades and De Russy's two guns should at once be moved behind your intrenchments, provided you are confident that the enemy will attack in force in the morning, leaving merely the picket lines with rather more than usual support to hold the ground against any new attack by skirmishers, to observe the enemy.

The general wishes to fight behind the intrenchments if attacked in force. Be sure and have the 8-inch howitzers all in position and well supplied with ammunition before morning; also the four Napoleon guns intended for the redoubts.

Acknowledge at once.

By order of General McClellan:

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS POPLAR HILL, VA.,
June 25, 1862.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Adjutant-General Army of the Potomac:

SIR: Much of the time since my arrival at this place has been devoted to an examination of the White Oak Swamp, commencing on the left of Couch's pickets. After crossing and recrossing at different sections I am of the opinion that it affords but a slight defense against an enterprising enemy. Infantry can pass through at most points at this time, when the present rain has added much to the volume of water. Judging from the character of swamps in general, this one should offer greater obstacles and impediments toward its mouth, but the reverse is the case, the approaches being firmer and the bottom of harder material. Perhaps a number of dams would cause a sufficient overflow in the swamp to deter the enemy from attempts at crossing. Two hundred choppers are at work on an abatis and others in the swamp for closing all fords and passes by obstructions.

The slashing of the timber on the right and left, opening of some rifle pits, will strengthen the position. Works in connection with the others in the direction of the intrenched camp would of course strengthen this flank, but I have no force adequate for so long a line. The country across the swamp is open and quite favorable for cavalry. Early information by mounted pickets is of the utmost importance. A large force of this arm should be at my disposal—at least one regiment.

Have been over the lines held by General Naglee. A small work or rifle pit across the railway should be made near the screen of timber. Have directed this and the slashing of timber in the vicinity of the lines.

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The redoubt on the road from Bottom's Bridge is in a half-finished state. This should be strengthened and the timber cleared between it and the rifle pits at the Chimneys.

The whole country across the Chickahominy and to the right of the railway should be patrolled frequently.

I am, very respectfully,

JOHN J. PECK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

[Indorsement.]

JUNE 25, 1862.

Respectfully referred to the Headquarters Army of the Potomac. All the means in our power will be employed to guard and strengthen the position.

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH PROVISIONAL ARMY CORPS,
Camp near New Bridge, Va., June 25, 1862.

Brigadier-General COOKE,
Commanding Cavalry Reserve:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that, notwithstanding the heavy force that has been sent out, he desires you to keep your patrols out and push them as far as it is safe for them to go. With all parties that go out it will be well to send a few axes to fell trees on all the roads except the main road to prevent the passage of cavalry and artillery from Harris Station, but not to prevent your men from making good their own retreat in case of necessity. He desires that you will cause all bridges to be destroyed except the one across the Totopotomoy, leading to Hawes' Shop, and others that may be necessary in case of retreat, and to close up all roads and destroy those bridges in case they have to retire. Have the road leading to Pole Green Church closed up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GALENA, *June 25, 1862.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

Dispatch received; night. Gunboats and false attack on City Point and on battery above barriers part of plan. Otherwise row-boats would be destroyed. Nothing else can get there. Four thousand troops in vicinity of Petersburg, and pickets everywhere. Execution must be prompt or a division would come from Richmond. Positive official information showing bridge 250 feet long; private, from 50 to 80 (about 50) high. The banks above command our decks. Men screened by trees fire and disappear before we can reply. An intolerable annoyance. Horse artillery put nine shot through the Jacob Bell and got off before assistance could arrive. We can fight when needed, but we cannot be in the narrow part of the river idle.

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Panther,* on right or west bank of river, has heavy guns. Both sides must be taken before we can work at removing obstructions.

JOHN RODGERS.

McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 26, 1862—9 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

A contraband servant in the Twentieth Georgia came in this morning, and confirms in a remarkable manner the story of Jackson being on our flank and his intention of attacking our communications. He also says eight regiments went to re-enforce Jackson last night near Hanover Junction. Other information shows there is a large force at the Junction. There is no doubt in my mind now that Jackson is coming upon us, and with such great odds against us we shall have our hands full.

No time should be lost if I am to have any more re-enforcements.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 26, 1862—10.20 a. m.

General JOHN A. DIX:

There are good reasons to believe that Jackson has come down to the vicinity of Hanover Court-House, and has been joined by forces from Richmond for the purpose of attacking our communications. It would be well to have Van Alen and Colonel Campbell on their guard.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S, VA., *June* 26, 1862—12 m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

The affair of yesterday was perfectly successful. We hold the new picket line undisturbed. All things very quiet on this bank of the Chickahominy. I would prefer more noise.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 26, 1862—2.45 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

I have the honor to forward the following telegraph correspondence between Flag-Officer Goldsborough and one of my staff officers:

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*Cipher; probably for battery.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 23.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH,
Commanding Naval Station, Fort Monroe:

Quite a number of vessels loaded with provisions and forage will leave the Pamunkey River within a day or two for James River. The general commanding desires that these vessels be convoyed up the James, and be placed in charge of the gunboats now in that river near City Point or at some secure place near there.

STEWART VAN VLIET,
Brigadier-General.

NORFOLK, *June* 25—9.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General VAN VLIET:

Your telegram dated 23d was received last night. Its wording is so mandatory that I desire to ask you if it is intended as an order from your general commanding to me.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp Lincoln, June 25, 1862.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH, *Norfolk:*

Your telegram just received. I am sorry you should consider my telegram as mandatory, as it was certainly not so intended. The commanding general merely desired your co-operation in carrying out an important duty. The general is now in front, where a sharp fight is going on, or I should submit your telegram to him to be answered.

STEWART VAN VLIET,
Brigadier-General.

I would state that it was not my intention to give an order to Flag-Officer Goldsborough, but merely to request his co-operation in carrying out a measure upon the success of which the safety of this army might depend.

As the flag-officer appears so ready to take exceptions to my requests I beg that he may receive positive orders not only to convoy those supply vessels up James River, but also to co-operate with this army so far as is in his power.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON CITY,
June 26, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

I am informed by General King, at Falmouth, that some of McCall's cavalry are still there, and expect to leave there to join you to-morrow. A dispatch from King, containing the statement of a contraband just received, has been forwarded. Please inform me where you directed McCall's force to be landed and to what point you desire any other force to be sent.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
June 26, 1862—7.10 p. m.

General GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

The re-enforcements will be sent to the place you request. We shall have every confidence in your ability to drive Jackson back, and will

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lose no time in aiding you. My last telegram apprised you of what is being done here.

With every wish for your success and good fortune (and I have never had any other feeling), I remain, yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, *June* 26, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Your three dispatches of yesterday in relation to the affair, ending with the statement that you completely succeeded in making your point, are very gratifying.

The later one of 6.15 p. m., suggesting the probability of your being overwhelmed by 200,000, and talking of where the responsibility will belong, pains me very much. I give you all I can, and act on the presumption that you will do the best you can with what you have, while you continue, ungenerously I think, to assume that I could give you more if I would. I have omitted and shall omit no opportunity to send you re-enforcements whenever I possibly can.

A. LINCOLN.

P. S.—General Pope thinks if you fall back it would be much better toward York River than toward the James. As Pope now has charge of the capital, please confer with him through the telegraph.

PORTER'S HEADQUARTERS, *June* 26, 1862—7.40 p. m.
(Received 10.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

A very heavy engagement in progress just in front of me. McCall and two brigades of Morell's are fighting gallantly against superior numbers, so far with marked success. There is no longer any doubt as to the strength of attack on this the left bank of the Chickahominy. My men are behaving superbly, but you must not expect them to contest too long against great odds. The engagement is very serious, and is just below Mechanicsville. You may rely upon this army doing all that men can do.

I still keep communication with White House, but it may be cut any moment, and I cannot prevent it.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 26, 1862—7.50 p. m.

Generals SUMNER, HEINTZELMAN, KEYES, HOOKER, SMITH:

General McClellan just this moment informs me that McCall and two brigades of Morell are hotly engaged near Mechanicsville, so far with marked success. Secesh in large force, but badly beaten. Inform the troops on your side of the river. Please communicate this to your troops.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

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PORTER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 26, 1862—8 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Engagement still continues with great vigor. The enemy have not gained a foot, and McCall is doing splendidly. He is showing that his division is equal to the veterans of the Army of the Potomac. Rebel force very large, but our position good, and our men as brave as can be. The stragglers are all to the rear of Morell's men. Just at McCall's. Dispatch as to re-enforcements this moment read. I thank you for them. I am rejoiced that the troops in front of Washington are to be placed under one command. Keep at that and all will be well.

I will answer for it that this army will do all that the country expects of it.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General Commanding.

PORTER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 26, 1862—9 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The firing has nearly ceased. I have nearly everything on the way—impediments on the other side of the Chickahominy—and hope to be ready for anything to-morrow.

Please see that Commodore Goldsborough complies promptly with my request. Victory of to-day complete and against great odds.

I almost begin to think we are invincible.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON CITY, *June* 26, 1862.

Major-General DIX, *Fort Monroe:*

Please give a statement of the forces you have forwarded to General McClellan, specifying, first, those sent by you from Baltimore; second, those sent since you entered upon your present command.

State also what number and description of force you still have in your command and how employed.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *June* 26, 1862—7.30 p. m.
(Received 11 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The regiments sent by me to General McClellan from Baltimore were the Fifth New York and the Second Delaware. Since I took command here I have sent him the First, Second, Seventh, Tenth, Twentieth, and One hundred and first New York, the Sixteenth and Twenty-ninth Massachusetts, and the First Michigan Volunteers, all well-drilled regiments. I have also sent him from here five companies of cavalry and

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a battery of regular artillery. I have at Fort Monroe 300 artillery, armed only with sabers, 222 infantry, and 18 field and staff; in all, 540; at Camp Hamilton and Hampton, 1,819 infantry and 90 cavalry; in all, 1,909; at Fort Wool and Sewell's Point, 254 infantry; at Norfolk and Portsmouth, 2,254 infantry, 309 mounted riflemen, and 80 artillery; in all, 2,643; at Suffolk, 2,769 infantry, 134 artillery, 412 cavalry, and staff, 10; in all, 3,325; at Yorktown and Gloucester, 1,319 infantry, 335 cavalry, and staff, 4; in all, 1,658; at Williamsburg, 466 cavalry; and at Newport News, 84 cavalry and 144 artillery; in all, 228. My whole force is 11,023, nearly one-third raw troops.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
June 26, 1862.

Brigadier-General VAN VLIET,
Chief Quartermaster, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

It is proposed to send troops from Alexandria to the Pamunkey. You will please dispatch, with all possible speed, steam vessels, or vessels towed by steam, to move a division of 5,000 men—artillery, infantry, cavalry, and baggage trains—from Alexandria. As dispatch is of the utmost importance, much should be sacrificed to collect ample means for this movement. The transportation available here is about enough for 3,000 men, without horses or baggage or artillery, and will be at Alexandria to-morrow. It is supposed that within forty-eight hours you can have a portion of the vessels now within the Department of Virginia for service at Alexandria.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 26, 1862—11.15 p. m.

M. C. MEIGS:

It is all-important to send infantry here at once. We have an abundance of artillery. Please send every infantry soldier you can raise. I will have an abundance of transportation at Alexandria in the shortest possible time. We have had a very severe battle to-day, and the result is satisfactory. I presume that it will be renewed in the morning.

VAN VLIET.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Norfolk, Va., June 26, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I beg to assure you that everything in my power shall be done to further your reasonable requests, and this too with great pleasure on my part. I took it for granted that you had not even seen General Van Vliet's telegram to me.

To afford you any unexpected assistance I must be consulted beforehand, so as to make arrangements accordingly, as I keep all the vessels

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under my command constantly employed, except those undergoing repairs.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Norfolk, Va., June 26, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Commander Rodgers is under orders from me to execute an exceedingly important and delicate duty, requiring his whole attention. He must therefore undervalue his services, or the object to be accomplished, if he thinks that he can, before that duty is discharged, leave his station for a day or two without detriment. Before consenting to his proposition to visit you I must hear further from him.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, June 26, 1862—9.27 p. m.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH,
Commanding North Atlantic Squadron:

General McClellan has forwarded the telegraphic correspondence between yourself and General Van Vliet, requesting that a convoy should be given certain transports. While the Department does not approve the tone and address of General Van Vliet's dispatch, it desires that you will not permit it to interfere with the public service, but that you will order a convoy for the transports to City Point, and that you will cordially co-operate with the army in its onward movement.

Very respectfully,

GIDEON WELLES.

WHITE HOUSE, *June* 26, 1862—9 p. m.
(Received June 27—10.20 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

In obedience to orders just received from Van Vliet, quartermaster, Army of the Potomac, I send you the following list of vessels that were sent to Fredericksburg, by orders of Mr. Tucker, for transporting McCall's division:

Steamer Donaldson, carries 700 men, 8 horses; Thomas Jefferson, 700 men; Massachusetts, 650 men, 10 horses; Columbia, 750 men; John Brooks, 1,200 men, 30 horses; Canonicus, 800 men; Arrowsmith, 750 men; Agnes (since burnt), 500 men, 4 horses; Hero, 900 men, 20 horses; Catskill, 800 men; North America, 100 men and 25 horses.

In addition to the above-named steamers eight schooners were sent, carrying 450 horses. There is now lying at this point subject to orders enough steamers to carry 3,000 men and schooners to carry 800 horses.

There has been recently sent a great many craft, both sail and steam, to Fort Monroe.

The following-named steamers are here in service of the Sanitary

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Commission: State of Maine, Daniel Webster, Kennebec, John Brooks, Louisiana, and Vanderbilt. They will carry about 700 men.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

NORFOLK, VA., *June* 27, 1862—11 a. m.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

I beg the Department to be assured that I will not permit the ignorance or impertinence of any Army officer to interfere for a moment with my duty to the Government. I am well aware of the crisis at Richmond and of the absolute necessity of prompt co-operation on my part with General McClellan.

Immediately on the receipt of General Van Vliet's telegram, notwithstanding its exceptionable tone and address, I took measures to carry out everything it required, and at the earliest possible moment gave orders accordingly. I had supposed, in addressing General Van Vliet upon the subject of his telegram, that General McClellan knew nothing of its wording, but as it now appears to have met his approval, I beg to express the hope that the War Department will enjoin upon him the propriety of inculcating better official manners of addressing me, as his equal in rank, and, last of all, not permitting an officer under his command to address me as a subordinate and refuse to confer upon me the denomination given me by law. General McClellan, as I understand from one of his telegrams to me, wishes the Navy Department to give me such orders as will secure a prompt compliance with any reasonable request he may make; he of course to be the exclusive judge of reasonableness. This, in effect, is asking to put the vessels of this squadron subject to his disposition.

There is, I regret to say, an evident disposition on the part of various Army officers to override and disparage the Navy, and it is high time a stop should be put to a feeling at once so ridiculous and puerile. I scarcely need add that all the wishes of the Department about convoy, &c., have been fully anticipated, and that I will most cordially and cheerfully co-operate with the Army on all occasions to crush the enemy. I only demand to be treated with the respect due to my rank, position, and responsibilities.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

JUNE 27, 1862—4.20 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I am instructed by General Keyes to report that I have five regiments, numbering about 2,000, between Bottom's Bridge and the railroad bridge; that I have three pieces of artillery on the railroad, commanding the bridge, and five pieces at Bottom's Bridge, behind an embankment and rifle pit, within 100 feet of the creek.

Having destroyed the upper bridge and prepared to remove the planking of the lower, would it not be well to send me another battery? And if not otherwise engaged send Barnard to go over the ground with me.

Very respectfully,

HENRY M. NAGLEE,
Brigadier-General.

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JUNE 27, 1862—6 a. m.

Capt. CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER:

Am just in from the front. Have placed Abercrombie's brigade on the line of advanced pickets and that of Sickles in charge of the lines of defense. On my left and Kearny's front I found the line established far inside of our old line. As this was done by troops not of my command, and not knowing by whose instructions they were acting, I had no remedy.

Please say to the general that I have 100 rounds of ammunition to the man, except in Grover's brigade, where they have but 90.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June* 27, 1862—10 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The night passed quietly. During it we brought all wagons, heavy guns, &c., to this side, and at daybreak drew in McCall's division about 3 miles. This change of position was beautifully executed under a sharp fire, with but little loss. The troops on the other side are now well in hand, and the whole army so concentrated that it can take advantage of the first mistake made by the enemy. White House yet undisturbed. Success of yesterday complete.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June* 27—12 m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

My change of position on other side just in time. Heavy attack now being made by Jackson and two other divisions. Expect attack also on this side.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

MCCLELLAN'S, *June* 27, 1862—1 p. m.
(Received 3 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch of noon received. I thank you for it. We are contending at several points against superior numbers. The enemy evince much desperation, but as we have no choice but to win, you may be sure that we will do all that can be expected. Thus far we have been successful, but I think the most severe struggle is to come. The enemy neglect White House thus far and bestow his whole attention on us.

If I am forced to concentrate between the Chickahominy and James, I will at once endeavor to open communication with you. All re-enforcements should for the present go to Fort Monroe, to which point I will send orders. It is absolutely certain that Jackson, Ewell, and Whiting are here. This may be the last dispatch I send you for some time.

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I will beg that you put some one general in command of the Shenandoah and of all troops in front of Washington for the sake of the country. Secure unity of action and bring the best men forward. Good-by, and present my respects to the President.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 27, 1862—3 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We have been fighting nearly all day against greatly superior numbers. We shall endeavor to hold our own, and if compelled to fall back, shall do it in good order, upon James River, if possible. Our men fight like veterans, and will do all that men can do. If we have to fall back on James River, supplies should be passed up to us under protection of the gunboats as rapidly as possible.

McClellan has telegraphed you several times to-day. You may rely upon it the rebels are concentrating their greatest efforts at this juncture.

MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

CAMP LINCOLN, *June* 27, 1862—4.30 p. m.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch of 4.10 received. Send word to all your troops that their general thanks them for their heroism, and says to them that he is now sure that nothing can resist them. Their conduct and your own has been magnificent, and another name is added to their banners. Give my regulars a good chance. I look upon to-day as decisive of the war. Try to drive the rascals and take some prisoners and guns. What more assistance do you require?

Ever yours,

McCLELLAN.

CAMP LINCOLN, *June* 27, 1862—5.5 p. m.

General FITZ JOHN PORTER:

I am ordering up more troops. Do your best to hold your own and let me know constantly the state of affairs and what you require. Do you need more batteries? You must hold your own until dark.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

JUNE 27, 1862—5.56 p. m.

Capt. CHAUNCEY McKEEVER:

Have just returned from the front, where we have nothing but a stampede since I saw you there, owing to the behavior of the troops occupying the picket line. The first shot from a rebel was sufficient to start regiments.

In order to preserve quiet to-night, if practicable, I ordered the Fifty-

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fifth New York Regiment from the forest, and for it not to return there. I cannot rely on troops I have seen from General Couch's division for any assistance should an advance be made on my front. Of this the spectacle of to-day has fully convinced me. The unusual activity of the rebels, the balloon ascension this morning, the shelling of the woods this evening all along my front, and the display of an unusual force this afternoon indicate that they have it in mind to advance. If so, I should have not less than three brigades to spring to the defenses; now I can be whipped before the reserve will get up. De Russy's battery is also gone when there can be no place at which it is so much needed, as there are so many approaches to my position.

I wish these suggestions to be well considered. The problem submitted for my opinion is very unlike the one which exists; in fact, I find Casey was whipped in detail. I desire to avoid such a disaster. Another musketry fire has broken out in front, but I really do not know whether it all comes from my troops, the pickets, or not.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

JUNE 27, 1862—6 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

The enemy have watched us very closely since 1 p. m., and opened upon us with one gun, rather as a feeler. He is very industrious, and is studying well our position. Move on my left at the railroad. Think the enemy in some force, but I have no evidence of it.

My picket line is very long, and our position we will do all in our power to hold, but 2 miles is heavy and very fatiguing duty.

I shall report all changes.

HENRY M. NAGLEE,
Brigadier-General.

MCCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 27, 1862—8 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Have had a terrible contest. Attacked by greatly superior numbers in all directions on this side; we still hold our own, though a very heavy fire is still kept up on the left bank of Chickahominy. The odds have been immense. We hold our own very nearly. I may be forced to give up my position during the night, but will not if it is possible to avoid it. Had I 20,000 fresh and good troops we would be sure of a splendid victory to-morrow.

My men have fought magnificently.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

JUNE 27, 1862—8.55 p. m.

Capt. CHAUNCEY MCKEEVER:

The last attack was all along the line of pickets in my front, and of course they were driven in. Enough is already known of our movements by the enemy to enable them to penetrate our object. This

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being the case, to thwart it there can be but one point of attack; that is on or near our left.

JOSEPH HOOKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE POTOMAC,
June 27, 1862.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH:

I desire you will send some light-draught gunboats at once up the Chickahominy as far as possible, and also that you will forthwith instruct the gunboats in the James River to cover the left flank of this army. I should be glad to have the gunboats proceed as far up the river as may be practicable, and hope they may get up as far as the vicinity of New Market.

We have met a severe repulse to-day, having been attacked by greatly superior numbers, and I am obliged to fall back between the Chickahominy and the James River. I look to you to give me all the support you can in covering my flank, as well as in giving protection to my supplies afloat in James River.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP MINNESOTA,
Norfolk, Va., June 27, 1862—3.40 p. m.

Major-General McCLELLAN:
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

SIR: In reply to your telegram of this date, just received, I beg to assure you that I will with great pleasure give every aid in my power in forwarding and protecting the vessels to which you allude.

By the mail of to-day I wrote you a letter. I beg also to congratulate you and my friend General Hooker on gaining the point you had in view so completely two days ago.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

NORFOLK, *June* 27, 1862—9.30 p. m.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

SIR: I will dispatch a tug instantly up James River, with orders for the two light-draught gunboats to go up the Chickahominy without a moment's delay.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

McCLELLAN'S, *June* 27, 1862—1.20 p. m.

Commodore GOLDSBOROUGH:

I have ordered vessels with supplies to be sent up James River. As it may be very important for us, I will thank you to give any aid in your power to forward and protect these vessels to the vicinity of your gunboats, where they will be protected from the enemy's guns.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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CAMP NEAR RICHMOND, VA.,
June 27, 1862.

Capt. W. E. STURGES, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: I have the honor to report that while in command of my regiment on picket, at 3 p. m. yesterday, I was detailed as division officer of the day. As soon as practicable I reported at division headquarters for instructions; after which I visited the different pickets on this front. While engaged in that duty I received a communication from General Kearny, directing me to report immediately to General Hooker, with a note requesting that officer to relieve the two regiments of this division doing picket duty on General Hooker's front; to which General Hooker assented, and informed me that he had given General Abercrombie orders to relieve all of the regiments of Kearny's division occupying his (Hooker's) front. This conversation occurred between 7 and 8 o'clock p. m. I then returned to the outpost. After waiting for an hour or more, and no relief for our pickets, I, in company with Colonel Egan, visited our lines on the right. After passing the Fortieth New York, and at some distance to the rear, I discovered the Long Island Volunteers. On making inquiry of the commanding officer in regard to his position at that point he informed me he was doing picket duty; that he was sent to relieve Birney's brigade. I informed him that no part of Birney's brigade had been relieved, and advised him to relieve the Fortieth New York, in accordance with instructions given him. He declined, on the ground that he had been placed there to hold that position, and could not change it except by orders from General Abercrombie. The position occupied by the Long Island Volunteers was in the open field in front of Hooker's division and about 400 yards to the left of Hooker's redoubt and near the woods. This conversation occurred between 11 and 12 o'clock p. m.

I then sought General Abercrombie, who informed me that he could not relieve any of the regiments without instructions from General Hooker. I then sent you a communication containing a statement of the difficulties I encountered in getting the proper regiments relieved. About 1 o'clock a. m. I received a communication from General Kearny, directing me to state to General Hooker that unless the regiments were relieved in an hour, he (Kearny) would relieve them and order them to camp. In accordance with these instructions I relieved the Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania and Fortieth New York from duty on Hooker's front about 3 p. m. The Fortieth New York was sent to camp; the Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania then relieved the Thirty-eighth New York, who also returned to camp.

General Hooker soon after the relief of the above regiment discovered their absence and immediately detailed others to fill their places. The whole line during my tour was quiet. I was relieved this morning by Colonel Hays, Sixty-third Pennsylvania.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. H. HOBART WARD,
Colonel Thirty-eighth Regiment, Division Officer of the Day.

The report of the position of the pickets in front of the division was rendered this morning.

NORFOLK, *June* 28, 1862—1 a. m.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Just received your second telegram upon the subject of the light-

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draught gunboats going up the Chickahominy and covering the left flank of your army. Without a moment's delay instructions shall be communicated to Commander Rodgers to comply immediately with all you desire.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Flag-Officer.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, June 28, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Save your army at all events. Will send re-enforcements as fast as we can. Of course they cannot reach you to-day, to-morrow, or next day. I have not said you were ungenerous for saying you needed re-enforcements. I thought you were ungenerous in assuming that I did not send them as fast as I could. I feel any misfortune to you and your army quite as keenly as you feel it yourself. If you have had a drawn battle or a repulse it is the price we pay for the enemy not being in Washington. We protected Washington and the enemy concentrated on you. Had we stripped Washington, he would have been upon us before the troops could have gotten to you. Less than a week ago you notified us that re-enforcements were leaving Richmond to come in front of us. It is the nature of the case, and neither you nor the Government are to blame. Please tell at once the present condition and aspect of things.

A. LINCOLN.

P. S.—General Pope thinks if you fall back it would be much better toward York River than toward the James. As Pope now has charge of the capital, please confer with him through the telegraph.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY CORPS,
Fort Monroe, Va., June 28, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Department Virginia:

GENERAL: Our fast steamers are all employed, and I send to the Chickahominy the armed steam-tug C. P. Smith, which has completed the opening of the navigation of the Nansemond River. Captain Heine, who has performed this duty very creditably, will bear this dispatch to you if it is possible by any effort to reach you. Please send him back with instructions as to the manner in which I shall communicate with you.

Commodore Goldsborough has been with me two hours, and no effort will be spared to support you at all points. I will open a regular communication with you by steam the moment I hear from you. I have a dispatch from the President expressing an earnest desire that I should reach you with a message, that I may know your wants.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

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McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 28, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch and that of President received. Jackson is driving in my pickets, &c., on other side of the Chickahominy.

It is impossible to tell where re-enforcements ought to go, as I am yet unable to predict result of approaching battle. It will probably be better that they should go to Fort Monroe and thence according to state of affairs when they arrive. It is not probable that I can maintain telegraphic communications more than an hour or two longer.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., June 28, 1862.

General DIX:

Communication with McClellan by White House is cut off. Strain every nerve to open communication with him by James River, or any other way you can. Report to me.

A. LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *June* 28, 1862.

Flag-Officer GOLDSBOROUGH,
Fort Monroe:

Enemy has cut McClellan's communication with White House and is driving Stoneman back on that point. Do what you can for him with gunboats at or near that place. McClellan's main force is between the Chickahominy and the James. Also do what you can to communicate with him and support him there.

A. LINCOLN.

FORT MONROE, *June* 28, 1862—3.30 p. m.

Hon. ABRAHAM LINCOLN:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your telegram to-day. I knew of General McClellan's position last night, and sent up orders for gunboats to go up Chickahominy to protect the general's left flank and guard vessels with supplies. General Dix and myself will do everything in our power to communicate with General McClellan and to keep a communication with him open up the James River.

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Commodore.

WASHINGTON CITY, *June* 28, 1862.

General BURNSIDE:

I think you had better go with any re-enforcements you can spare to General McClellan.

A. LINCOLN.

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WASHINGTON CITY, *June* 28, 1862.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
New Berne, via Fort Monroe:

We have intelligence that General McClellan has been attacked in large force and compelled to fall back toward the James River. We are not advised of his exact condition; but the President directs that you shall send him all the re-enforcements from your command to the James River that you can safely do without abandoning your own position. Let it be infantry entirely, as he said yesterday that he had cavalry enough.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON CITY,
June 28, 1862—6 p. m.

Major-General BURNSIDE, *New Berne:*

Since the dispatches of the President and myself to you of to-day we have seen a copy of one sent to you by General McClellan on the 25th, of which we were not aware.

Our directions were not designed to interfere with any instructions given you by General McClellan, but only to authorize you to render him any aid in your power.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *June* 28, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK, *Corinth:*

The enemy have concentrated in such force at Richmond as to render it absolutely necessary, in the opinion of the President, for you immediately to detach 25,000 of your force, and forward it by the nearest and quickest route, by way of Baltimore and Washington, to Richmond. It is believed that the quickest route would be by way of Columbus, Ky., and up the Ohio River. But in detaching your force the President directs that it be done in such way as to enable you to hold your ground and not interfere with the movement against Chattanooga and East Tennessee. This condition being observed, the forces to be detached and the route they are to be sent is left to your own judgment.

The direction to send these forces immediately is rendered imperative by a serious reverse suffered by General McClellan before Richmond yesterday, the full extent of which is not yet known.

You will acknowledge the receipt of this dispatch, stating the day and hour it is received, and inform me what your action will be, so that we may take measures to aid in river and railroad transportation.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 28, 1862.

In view of the great losses in the different grades of commissioned officers which many of the regiments of the army have sustained in the recent conflicts, one regiment being left entirely without officers, the commanding general directs that measures be taken by corps com-

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manders to have the names of the most distinguished non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who have proved their claim to promotion by their gallantry in the actions of the Peninsula, sent forward at once, with recommendations for acting appointments for the places to which it is desired they shall be commissioned.

The persons will at once enter on duty, and the commanding general will use every exertion to secure from the Governors of States the corresponding commissions.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 28, 1862.

The commanding general directs that you immediately cause your command to be provided with three days' rations in haversacks; ammunition sufficient to fill the boxes of the infantry and artillery; that the wagons that can be spared for the purpose be at once sent to the depots at Orchard Station and Savage Station for supplies of hard bread, sugar and coffee, and forage. These wagons, after being so loaded, will at once be sent through the White Oak Swamp via Savage Station, where they will wait further orders.

The usual reserve ammunition must be taken. Please acknowledge.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 28, 1862.

Care will be taken by commanders to send forward with their wagons all the intrenching tools in the possession of their commands.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
June 28, 1862.

It is a matter of vital importance that all the transportation of the army should in the movement now taking place be employed exclusively for the carrying of ammunition and subsistence. All tents and all articles not indispensable to the safety or maintenance of the troops must be abandoned and destroyed. A reasonable supply of hospital stores will be taken, and all the intrenching tools in the possession of the troops. All unnecessary officers' baggage will be left behind; the sick and wounded that are not able to walk must necessarily be left. Every provision for their comfort must be made. Subsistence must be left and medical stores for their use in liberal quantities. Medical officers will be left in charge of the sick and wounded, and a sufficient number of attendants to supply the requisite care. They should be

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furnished with papers stating their character. It is enjoined upon commanders to lose no time in loading their wagons as required.

The commanding general relies upon the cheerfulness and patience with which the sacrifice demanded of officers and men for the short season only, it is hoped, will be borne.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 29, 1862—2.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have a dispatch from General Stoneman. He is at Williamsburg. He has 900 men of the reserve; a battery of horse artillery, six guns; and one of foot artillery, four guns. His infantry force was turned over to General Casey and embarked on steamboats for Yorktown. I will telegraph you as soon as advised of their arrival. Colonel Ingalls, quartermaster, is at Yorktown, with four hundred transports, bound to James River. Everything was brought off from White House in perfect order. The gunboats were left at and near the White House, which is burned—by whom not known.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 29, 1862—2.45 p. m.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

The White House depot was abandoned by me last night at sunset, in compliance with instructions previously given by General McClellan, and directly in consequence of the movements of the enemy the two preceding days. At 12 yesterday he was in possession of our railroad. At Dispatch, 12 miles from White House, it was known he was marching down this side of the Chickahominy in great force—at least 30,000 strong—and that a column of 6,000 was moving rapidly on this depot. At 5 (afternoon) General Stoneman fell back from Tunstall's to White House, pressed by the enemy. About 7 (afternoon) General Casey, who had recently relieved me in command of the troops, had embarked his infantry on boats and dropped down the river. Stoneman, with the cavalry and artillery, retired toward Williamsburg, in which direction I had already sent all the wagons, animals, &c., not provided for on transports. It was presumed that our army was across the Chickahominy. F. J. Porter's corps crossed night before last, thus leaving the enemy's large force quite isolated on this side. In any event the depot was useless the moment our railroad was seized; therefore I perfected arrangements to abandon it at once, and succeeded in so doing without loss, confusion, or accident, moving out from the narrow and tortuous Pamunkey some four hundred vessels laden with supplies, quite all of which I now have with me, *en route* to James River by Fort Monroe, if our arms are successful to-day and to-morrow at Richmond. The gunboats were still at White House and other important points on the river. Everything not required to be taken away was burned before I left. The White House itself was burned, probably by some unknown

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hand. The officers of the staff department were one and all wonderfully zealous and energetic.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Lieut. Col., Aide-de-Camp, and Assistant Quartermaster.

FORT MONROE, *June* 29, 1862—4.15 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I arrived here this morning, the enemy having driven our army from the left to the right bank of the Chickahominy, and having in force cut the railroad at Dispatch Station. The evacuating of White House Station became last evening a military necessity, and agreeably to orders from the Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac I evacuated. Every man was saved, and all public property that could not be saved was destroyed.

SILAS CASEY,
Brigadier-General Volunteers.

FORT MONROE, *June* 29, 1862—5.15 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

General Casey has arrived here safely with his small force. We get no details of the operation yesterday, except at West Point and vicinity. General Casey left there at 7 last evening. The property remaining, which was small, had been fired, so that the enemy took nothing. This is the last intelligence from that point.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
June 29, 1862—6 p. m.

Hon. WM. H. SEWARD,
Astor House, New York:

Not much more than when you left. Fulton, of Baltimore American, is now with us. He left White House at 11 a. m. yesterday. He conversed fully with a paymaster, who was with Porter's force during the fight of Friday and fell back to nearer McClellan's quarters just a little sooner than Porter did, seeing the whole of it. Staid on the Richmond side of the Chickahominy overnight and left for White House at 5 a. m. Saturday. He says Porter retired in perfect order under protection of guns arranged for the purpose, under orders and not from necessity, and with all other of our forces, except what was left on purpose to go to White House, was safely in pontoons over the Chickahominy before morning, and that there was heavy firing on the Richmond side, begun at 5 and ceased at 7 a. m. Saturday. On the whole I think we have had the better of it up to that point of time. What has happened since we still know not, as we have no communication with General McClellan. A dispatch from Colonel Ingalls shows that he thinks McClellan is fighting with the enemy at Richmond to-day and will be to-morrow. We have no means of knowing upon what Colonel Ingalls

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founds his opinion. All confirmed about saving all property. Not a single unwounded straggler came back to the White House from the field, and the number of wounded reaching there up to 11 a. m. Saturday was not large.

A. LINCOLN.

To what the President has above stated I will only add one or two points that may be satisfactory for you to know:

1st. All the sick and wounded were safely removed from the White House; not a man left behind.

2d. A dispatch from Burnside shows that he is in condition to afford efficient support and is probably doing so.

3d. The dispatch of Colonel Ingalls impresses me with the conviction that the movement was made by General McClellan to concentrate on Richmond, and was successful to the latest point of which we have any information.

4th. Mr. Fulton says that on Friday night between 12 and 1 o'clock General McClellan telegraphed Commodore Goldsborough that the result of the movement was satisfactory to him.

5th. From these and the facts stated by the President my inference is that General McClellan will probably be in Richmond within two days.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, June 29, 1862.

Major-General DIX:

If you will be so good as to report any information you may receive I will not trouble you unless you have something to communicate. Thanking you for your attention,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *June* 29, 1862—7.45 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

Colonel Ingalls is here, with most of the transports. He will go up the James River to-night and try to communicate with General McClellan. We expect to hear from him before morning.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 29, 1862—8 p. m.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

I have seen General Dix, and arranged for boats to go up James River to-morrow with supplies and for wounded. General Casey is here on board of transports. Stoneman is at Williamsburg, *en route* to Yorktown. My trains arrived in safety. I leave immediately to-night for City Point, to ascertain the position and condition of the army.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

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FORT MONROE, *June* 29, 1862—8.30 p. m.

D. C. MCCALLUM:

The rebels have possession of our railroad. White House is abandoned. Wentz and myself, with all our men, are here, waiting your orders. One locomotive, with forty cars, are at headquarters. The other locomotives are under the guns of the gunboats, with connecting-rods taken off and preserved. All the men are safe. We ran the railroad up to the last moment The two locomotives last sent are still afloat and safe.

C. S. MCALPIN,
Superintendent.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *June* 30, 1862.

Hon. WM. H. SEWARD, *New York:*

We are yet without communication with General McClellan, and this absence of news is our point of anxiety. Up to the latest point to which we are posted he effected everything in such exact accordance with his plan, contingently announced to us before the battle began, that we feel justified to hope that he has not failed since. He had a severe engagement in getting the part of his army on this side of the Chickahominy over to the other side, in which the enemy lost certainly as much as we did. We are not dissatisfied with this, only that the loss of enemies does not compensate for the loss of friends. The enemy cannot come below White House; certainly is not there now, and probably has abandoned the whole line. Dix's pickets are at New Kent Court-House.

A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *June* 30, 1862.

Hon. WM. H. SEWARD,
Astor House, New York:

General McClellan's line is established at Turkey Island, on the James River. Our gunboats are there. Nothing disastrous has happened to him since communication was broken off. The whole movement appears to be successful so far as we can judge, but it seems as if he meant to begin intrenching.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
June 30, 1862—7 p. m.

Hon. WM. H. SEWARD,
Astor House, New York:

We have received nothing of consequence since my last message stating that General McClellan's communication with the gunboats was established. His depot on the James River is at Turkey Island Point. Stoneman's and Casey's forces are on the way to join him from Fort Monroe. Without losing a man, they were the last to leave White House. The enemy have not advanced beyond White House. Halleck promises to send the force asked from him, and I have sent Tucker to Corinth to arrange the transportation. We have news from Vicks-

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burg. Farragut and Ellet's ram fleet are there, acting together. The Mississippi is clear from Memphis to Vicksburg, and we shall soon have that. Goldsborough gives a report that Stonewall Jackson was killed Friday. Pope is hard at work organizing his force. Sigel takes Frémont's corps instead of King, who preferred to keep command of his own division. You shall have all the reliable news as fast as it comes. Dix is at work to establish a new telegraph line between him and McClellan. Everything is moving briskly and favorably. If the Governors will give us promptly 100,000 men the war will be over. Mark the hour your telegrams are sent.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, June 30, 1862.

Major-General WOOL:

McClellan has moved his whole force across the Chickahominy and rests on James River, being supported by our gunboats. The position is favorable, and looks more like taking Richmond than any time before. I will send you some service money.*

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *June* 30, 1862—11.30 a. m.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

I send you copy of a letter just received from Commander Rodgers:

U. S. GUNBOAT GALENA,
Off Turkey Island, June 29, 1862.

Commodore GOLDSBOROUGH:

SIR: In obedience to your letter containing telegram from General McClellan, I immediately proceeded with this vessel, the Aroostook, and the Mahaska, up James River to Sturgeontown, above New Market, indicated in the telegram. I got under way at daylight and ran down to this place. I here met the Port Royal, with an officer from General Keyes, sent to open communication with me. He designated this as the point. I ventured up the river to bring the gunboats here. On coming down, I regret the Mahaska had a man killed by musket firing from the banks. I have since met Colonel Alexander, of the Engineers, sent by General McClellan to communicate with me, and to select base for operations. I shall take the colonel around on this vessel to make the selection.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JOHN RODGERS,
Commander.

P. S.—I am in a very great hurry, and apologize for a postscript. Colonel Alexander has no means of communication, and begs that you will make known to General Dix the pressing necessity here for steamers for the accommodation of the sick and wounded at the very earliest moment. Let them stop below Harrison's Bar and await General McClellan.

Very respectfully,

JOHN RODGERS,
Commander.

GOLDSBOROUGH.

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* Some matter not connected with Peninsular Campaign omitted.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, June 30, 1862.

Major-General DIX,
Fort Monroe:

Is it not probable the enemy have abandoned the line between White House and McClellan's rear? He could have but little object to maintain it and nothing to subsist upon. Would not Stoneman better move up and see about it? I think a telegraphic communication can at once be opened to White House from Williamsburg. The wires must be up still.

A. LINCOLN.

FORT MONROE, *June* 30, 1862.
(Received 11 a. m.)

The President, ABRAHAM LINCOLN:

Everything has been done that is possible to open communication with General McClellan. I have sent an armed tug up the Chickahominy. Commodore Goldsborough sent up the James River, and Colonel Ingalls went up last night. We expect to hear to-day. At 10 o'clock yesterday the enemy had not occupied the point at White House. Our gunboats were still lying in the river, and the enemy's re-enforcements were only seen on the high ground a mile or two back. I cannot learn as yet whether they came this side of the White House. I shall soon have a report from Williamsburg.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 30, 1862—11 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Will you please say to President Lincoln that the report from Williamsburg is just in? The enemy had not been at White House at 8 o'clock last evening. Our pickets extend to New Kent Court-House, 6 miles this side.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *June* 30, 1862—2 p. m.

Hon. ABRAHAM LINCOLN:

We have no doubt that McClellan intended to abandon the White House. Our only line of communication with him by telegraph from that point would be along the railroad, which the enemy will hardly give up.

The communication of Commodore Goldsborough, telegraphed to Gideon Welles, will have advised you that the general relies on the James River for all his communications hereafter. The commodore was with me an hour ago. I suggested that we should extend our wires from Williamsburg to the mouth of the Chickahominy and there communicate by the James River by steamers or carry them on the left bank of the river to Turkey Island Point, where the new depot is to be. The general has all the materials of the working party with him,

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and will no doubt at once open a new line of telegraphic communication from his camp to the river, and thence to meet the old line at Williamsburg or Sole Point, higher up. We have no material here. I will make a reconnaissance in the vicinity of the White House, to ascertain whether the enemy are there.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY CORPS,
Fort Monroe, Va., June 30, 1862.

Brig. Gen. SILAS CASEY,
U. S. Volunteers:

GENERAL: You will proceed with your command to Harrison's Bar, on the James River, about 6 miles this side of City Point, and there await the orders of Major-General McClellan, to whom you will report immediately by letter. You will find at Harrison's Bar a squadron of gunboats for your protection.

Respectfully, yours,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *June* 30, 1862.

Major-General DIX,
Fort Monroe:

So long as communication continues interrupted between General McClellan and the forces at Yorktown and Williamsburg you are authorized to assume command of them and all on that side of the Chickahominy, and give such orders as you deem proper, not conflicting with the wishes of General McClellan.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *June* 30, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK,
Corinth, Miss.:

Would be very glad of 25,000 infantry; no artillery or cavalry; but please do not send a man if it endangers any place you deem important to hold, or if it places you to give up or weaken or delay the expectations against Chattanooga. To take and hold the railroad at or east of Cleveland, in East Tennessee, I think fully as important as the taking and holding of Richmond.

A. LINCOLN.

CORINTH, *June* 30, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your telegram of the 28th is just received, but it is so imperfect that parts of it cannot be deciphered till repeated. The object, however, is understood, and measures will be immediately taken to carry it out. The condition of the river and railroads in Tennessee and the want of

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rolling stock will render the movement very slow. Cavalry cannot be sent, and it will be exceedingly difficult to transport artillery with horses and guns. If artillerymen are sent, can they be supplied with horses and guns there, or shall I send infantry only?

I think, under the circumstances, the Chattanooga expedition better be abandoned or at least be diminished. If not, I doubt our ability to hold West Tennessee after detaching so large a force as that called for. I will telegraph more in detail as soon as your telegram is repeated, as I cannot understand parts of it.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *June* 30, 1862—3 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK, *Corinth:*

Your telegram of this date just received. The Chattanooga expedition must not on any account be given up. The President regards that and the movement against East Tennessee as one of the most important movements of the war, and its occupation nearly as important as the capture of Richmond. He is not pleased with the tardiness of the movement toward Chattanooga, and directs that no force be sent here if you cannot do it without breaking up the operation against that point and East Tennessee. Infantry only are needed; our cavalry and artillery are strong enough.

The first reports from Richmond were more discouraging than the truth warranted. If the advantage is not on our side it is balanced. General McClellan has moved his whole force onto the line of the James River and is supported by our gunboats. But he must be largely strengthened before advancing, and hence the call on you, which I am glad you have answered so promptly. Let me know to what point on the river you will send your forces, so as to provide immediately for transportation.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

TURKEY BRIDGE, *June* 30, 1862—7 p. m.
(Received July 1, 11.30 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Another day of desperate fighting. We are hard pressed by superior numbers. I fear I shall be forced to abandon my material to save my men under cover of the gunboats. You must send us very large re-enforcements by way of Fort Monroe, and they must come very promptly. My army has behaved superbly, and have done all that men could do. If none of us escape, we shall at least have done honor to the country.

I shall do my best to save the army. Send more gunboats.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, JAMES RIVER, *June* 30, 1862, 8 p. m.
(Received Washington, July 1, 12 m.)

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

The general is 6 miles above here, on the river. His army will probably fall back to Harrison's Bar, near here, to-morrow. It is nearly ex-

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hausted with constant and desperate fighting against fearful odds. If his army be not speedily re-enforced the results may prove disastrous.

Our department has the means of providing stores in abundance. McClellan wants men now more than anything else.

RUFUS INGALLS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Turkey Island, July 1, 1862—2.45 a. m.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: Another desperate combat to-day. Our troops repulsed the enemy. I was sending orders to renew the combat to-morrow, fearing the consequences of farther retreat in the exhausted condition of the troops and being as willing to stake the last chance of battle in that position as any other under the circumstances, when I learned that the right had fallen back after dark and that the center was following.

I have taken steps to adopt a new line, the left resting on Turkey Island, and thence along a ridge parallel to James River as far as I have the force to hold it. Rodgers will do all that can be done to cover my flanks. I will probably be obliged to change this line in a few days, when I have rested the men, for one lower down, and extending from the Chickahominy to the James.

If it is the intention of the Government to re-enforce me largely it should be done promptly and in mass. I need 50,000 more men, and with them I will retrieve our fortunes. More would be well, but that number sent at once will, I think, enable me to assume the offensive. I cannot too strongly urge the necessity of prompt action in this matter. Even a few thousand fresh men within the next twenty-four or forty-eight hours will do much toward relieving and encouraging this wearied army, which has been engaged in constant combat for the last five or six days.

I must apologize for the probable incoherency of this letter. I am exhausted by want of sleep and constant anxiety for many days.

Very respectfully, yours,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., July 1, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

Your telegram of last night has been received and will be answered by the President. We have sent you 5,000 from McDowell's corps since Saturday that have reached Fort Monroe already, and I hope will be of use to you. Halleck has been ordered to send a corps of his army, 25,000 infantry, [and answered] that he will do so. Tucker is on the road to Corinth to arrange the transportation. I hope to have them with you within two weeks. Hold your ground and you will be in Richmond before the month is over.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Haxall's Plantation, July 1, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: My whole army is here, with all its guns and material. The battle of yesterday was very severe, but the enemy was repulsed and severely punished. After dark the troops retired to this position. My men are completely exhausted, and I dread the result if we are attacked to-day by fresh troops. If possible I shall retire to-night to Harrison's Bar, where the gunboats can render more aid in covering our position. Permit me to urge that not an hour should be lost in sending me fresh troops. More gunboats are much needed.

I hope that the enemy was so severely handled yesterday as to render him careful in his movements to-day. I now pray for time. My men have proved themselves the equals of any troops in the world, but they are worn-out. Our losses have been very great. I doubt whether more severe battles have ever been fought. We have failed to win only because overpowered by superior numbers.

Very truly, yours,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

NORFOLK, *July* 1, 1862—p. m.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Under date of yesterday I have a letter from Commander Rodgers, in which he says the army is, much of it, on the James River banks, just above City Point. It is safe. General King and Colonel Alexander breakfasted with me. Communication is fully established. General McClellan's headquarters are at Turkey Bend. He himself was on board the Galena yesterday. I have sent the Dacotah and Wachusett to Harden's Bluff to destroy the guns there effectually, and also at Day's Point, if possible. The former vessel returned yesterday afternoon from convoying a number of transports up the James River, and it was my intention to send her back with another, but owing to a report that the enemy was probably trying to get two guns in batteries at Harden's Bluff I determined to send her off this morning, as stated.

There are no guns at Fort Powhatan up to my last accounts. It is even doubtful whether any were ever there, judging from the appearance of the place, which is overgrown with high grass.

GOLDSBOROUGH.

FORT MONROE, *July* 1, 1862—10.25 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Colonel Campbell was directed to make a reconnaissance yesterday toward the White House. He encountered the enemy's pickets near New Kent Court-House and drove them in. He was attacked in return by a considerable cavalry force and was obliged to fall back. The enemy's purpose will be ascertained if possible during the day. Please say to the President communication with General McClellan by way of

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White House is impracticable, as the bridges over the Chickahominy are all destroyed. I have just received the following dispatch from General Marcy in pencil, dated June 30, 9 o'clock last evening:

Major-General DIX,
Fort Monroe:

The general commanding desires you to send all the re-enforcements to this place, to be landed at such places as the commander of the gunboats may deem appropriate when they arrive. We have had hard work to get here, and want the re-enforcements as soon as practicable. Please see that the men you send have three days' rations in their haversacks.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

General Ferry has arrived here with 5,000 men from Alexandria. I shall push them on without delay. There was hard fighting yesterday on the James River. I have no details. The enemy was held in check. Nearly the whole power of the insurgent States is concentrated at Richmond.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *July* 1, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have just received the following dispatch from General Keyes:

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Haxall's House, Bank of James River, June 30.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. DIX,
Commanding at Fort Monroe:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that with my corps, constituting the advance of the flank movement of the army before Richmond, I safely arrived at this point at sunrise, with all my troops, wagons, cannon, and public property, except Naglee's brigade and a few outguards, which will report as soon as relieved. Fitz John Porter's corps, which was ordered to support my advance, is now arriving, that officer himself being here, together with a portion of his trains. The movement may now be considered to have been nearly completed, and successfully. The enemy attacked my lines yesterday with cavalry, but they were promptly repelled, with heavy loss to the rebels. They were pretty well cut up. They also attacked the rear guard, but not with sufficient vigor to do much damage. Please communicate the above to the reporters, to relieve the minds of the anxious public.

E. D. KEYES.
Brigadier General, Commanding Fourth Corps, Army Potomac.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 1, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. D. KEYES,
Commanding Fourth Corps:

The Army of the Potomac moves to-night to Harrison's Bar. Your command will form the rear guard, Franklin's corps just preceding yours. The gunboats are instructed to cover your flank and rear. Bring along all the wagons you can, but they are to be sacrificed, of

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course, rather than imperil your safety. Celerity of movement is the sole security of this operation. At Harrison's Bar additional gunboats, a comfortable position, and considerable re-enforcements under General Shields. Stimulate your men to fortitude and renewed courage by a knowledge of the fact. Couch's division has already been ordered to move under the direction of General Porter.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
Near Haxall's Landing, Va., July 1, 1862.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

SIR: This morning I learned with great surprise that an order had been sent to General Keyes last evening for General Wessells' brigade to proceed in support of our forces in action. This information came from Capt. C. C. Suydam, assistant adjutant-general, who stated he received it from you.

No order of this nature ever reached me or any member of my staff. My remaining brigade was under arms, ready for any service, at the head of Turkey Creek, until about 3.30 p. m., when General Keyes ordered me to prepare to move, and to send an officer of my staff to him for orders. Aide-de-Camp Titus reported, and returned with Lieutenant Smith, of Keyes' staff, who guided my command to a new position in line of battle on the extreme right, where I found General Keyes, and with whom I remained during the day and night.

This day Major Hammerstein, aide-de-camp of General McClellan, called upon me and gave me the following note, viz:

JULY 1, 1862.

An order for General Peck to move on the evening of June 30 one brigade up for action was in my possession, but was not delivered because his position was not known to me. I could not look longer for him, because I had to move other troops, and knew that his other brigade was already in position.

HAMMERSTEIN,
Major, Aide-de-Camp.

General Keyes, commanding Fourth Corps, added to the above:

On the evening of the 30th of June I received a verbal order from General McClellan to send two of Couch's brigades to the front, to be guided by Major Webb, who brought the order. I received no order to send forward or to move specifically any part of General Peck's command in any other manner than to form my line of battle on the 30th of June.

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

I feel very sanguine that you have labored under some misapprehension, and I desire that this shall be presented to Baron Hammerstein, aide-de-camp, and General Keyes, and with their indorsements be submitted to the commanding general of the Army of the Potomac, to the end that no injustice shall be done me in these premises.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN J. PECK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

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CORINTH, MISS., *July* 1, 1862.
(Received 9.16 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your corrected telegram of 28th was received last night. I had already acted on the imperfect copy received yesterday morning. General McClernand was ordered to send as many of his division as possible to Columbus by every train. General Quinby has been ordered to detach as many as he can spare from his command near Columbus. Light-draught boats have been ordered from Saint Louis to take one division from this place via Pittsburgh. A part of Wallace's division will be sent from Memphis as soon as I can relieve them.

I fear that you have overestimated the strength of the army in West Tennessee. Since the departure of General Buell's army and the detachments to General Curtis I have less than 65,000 effective men. After sending the detachment ordered to Washington I shall have less than 40,000. We have repaired and have now to guard between Columbus, Memphis, and Decatur 367 miles of railroad, besides the posts established on Mississippi River and many rivers. All scouts, spies, deserters, and prisoners, without a single exception, report that no troops have been sent from here East. The rebel force in this State is not less than 75,000 or 80,000 men, and Bragg is raising conscripts daily. These are facts of which I have the most reliable evidence.

The enemy acts in a friendly country, requiring no guards for his depots, and has an immense rolling stock, so that he can in a few days concentrate on any one point. We cannot so concentrate. I am therefore satisfied that a detachment of 25,000 from this army at the present time will result in the loss of Arkansas or West Tennessee, and perhaps both. Those who have not the proper data have been disposed to underrate the force of the enemy and to overrate that of this army. The facts are precisely as here given. Those who represent otherwise deceive you.

Either the Chattanooga expedition must be postponed or a less force sent to Washington, or we have left the alternative of losing much that we have gained here in the West.

To surrender any territory we have acquired is certain death to all Union men in that territory. Any loss on our part will be followed by insurrection in Tennessee and Kentucky, and we shall find still greater difficulty in the pacification of those States than we have encountered in Missouri.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

CORINTH, *July* 1, 1862. (Received 9.40 p. m.)

The PRESIDENT:

Your telegram just received saves Western Tennessee; the former order was imperative and I had no alternative but obedience. The enemy is undoubtedly preparing to attack some point of our lines, supposing our forces diminished. I immediately ordered them all back to their posts. If these troops had been sent East, we should have been defeated or forced to retreat.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General, Commanding.

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CORINTH, *July* 1, 1862—8.45 a. m.
(Received 9.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Telegraph suspending orders for troops is received. If order had been carried out we should have been either defeated or forced to retreat. No forces can be spared at present. The enemy is apparently preparing to make an attack, and his guerrillas have already done us considerable damage.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
July 2, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK,
Corinth, Miss.:

Your several dispatches of yesterday to Secretary of War and myself received. I did say, and now repeat, I would be exceedingly glad for some re-enforcements from you; still, do not send a man if in your judgment it will endanger any point you deem important to hold, or will force you to give up, or weaken, or delay the Chattanooga expedition. Please tell me, could you make me a flying visit for consultation without endangering the service in your department?

A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., July 2, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

Your dispatch of Tuesday morning induces me to hope your army is having some rest. In this hope allow me to reason with you a moment. When you ask for 50,000 men to be promptly sent you, you surely labor under some gross mistake of fact. Recently you sent papers showing your disposal of forces made last spring for the defense of Washington and advising a return to that plan. I find it included in and about Washington 75,000 men. Now, please be assured I have not men enough to fill that very plan by 15,000. All of Frémont's in the valley, all of Banks', all of McDowell's not with you, and all in Washington, taken together, do not exceed, if they reach, 60,000. With Wool and Dix added to those mentioned I have not, outside of your army, 75,000 men east of the mountains. Thus the idea of sending you 50,000, or any other considerable force, promptly is simply absurd. If, in your frequent mention of responsibility, you have the impression that I blame you for not doing more than you can, please be relieved of such impression. I only beg that in like manner you will not ask impossibilities of me. If you think you are not strong enough to take Richmond just now I do not ask you to try just now. Save the army, material and personal, and I will strengthen it for the offensive again as fast as I can. The Governors of eighteen States offer me a new levy of 300,000, which I accept.

A. LINCOLN.

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FORT MONROE, *July* 2, 1862—2 p. m.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

I have just received, under date of yesterday, the following dispatch from General McClellan, addressed to me:

I would most earnestly request that every gunboat or other armed vessels suitable for action in the James River be sent at once to this vicinity, headquarters, and placed under the orders of Commodore Rodgers, for the purpose of covering the camps and communication of this army. May I urge that not an hour be lost, and that you telegraph the Navy Department respecting the request I make. If this is immediate, I must offer as an excuse the extreme exhaustion under which I am laboring.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

Also the following is the substance of dispatch from Commander Rodgers, bearing same date and sent by same opportunity:

The army is in a bad way. To save it, as far as we can, demands immediately all our disposable force. Fort Powhatan is a very important point. It should be immediately guarded. City Point commands the upper part, and that demands a strong force of gunboats to——

(Here telegraph line failed.)

Fort Powhatan is a most important point. It should be strongly guarded. City Point commands the channel past it. That demands a strong force of gunboats. To insure the passage of supplies each end of the encampment on the river banks demands a force of gunboats. We shelled the enemy with good effect, I hear, yesterday. Please send ammunition immediately—8-inch and 9-inch shells, 100-pounder rifle projectiles, with cartridges for them and the 9-inch shells. Position of gunboats Delaware and Satellite in Chickahominy. Port Royal sent yesterday, with Colonel Alexander, of Engineers, to select a base for operations. Not returned. Aroostook and Mahaska near Turkey Creek, protecting flank. Maratanza protecting passage of supplies convoying them. Monitor off City Point guarding it. Southfield aground below City Point. Galena's position near Turkey Creek, at headquarters. Port Royal is to come here.

JOHN RODGERS.

I scarcely need add that I am doing everything in my power to afford the assistance required, and am here for the purpose of expediting matters. The Jacob Bell, Morse, Barney, and Yankee have already gone up the same river. The Currituck leaves immediately, and so, too, with the Sebago. The Baltimore goes up in an hour or two with ordnance stores. I wish the Department to rest assured that nothing shall be wanting on my part.

GOLDSBOROUGH.

BERKELEY, HARRISON'S BAR, *July* 2, 1862—5.30 p. m.
(Via Fort Monroe, June 3, 10.40 a. m.)

Hon. ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
President of the United States:

I have succeeded in getting this army to this place on the banks of the James River. I have lost but one gun, which had to be abandoned last night because it broke down. An hour and a half ago the rear of the wagon train was within a mile of camp, and only one wagon abandoned. As usual, we had a severe battle yesterday and beat the enemy badly, the men fighting even better than before. We fell back to this position during the night and morning. Officers and men thoroughly worn-out by fighting every day and working every night for a week. They are in good spirits, and after a little rest will fight better than

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ever. If not attacked during this day I will have the men ready to repulse the enemy to-morrow. General Ferry is here. Our losses have been very heavy, for we have fought every day since last Tuesday. I have not yielded an inch of ground unnecessarily, but have retired to prevent the superior force of the enemy from cutting me off and to take a different base of operations.

I thank you for the re-enforcements. Every 1,000 men you send at once will help me much.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *July* 2, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have intelligence from General McClellan's headquarters to 6 p. m. yesterday. There was very little fighting up to that hour. An attack on our left was repulsed. The report from Williamsburg is in. The enemy has not come this side of New Kent Court-House. Our pickets there are in sight of each other.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *July* 2—9.50 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

We drove back the enemy's pickets this morning some 4 miles. They are near New Kent Court-House, and said to be in force between that point and White House. They gave some indications of withdrawing, but I distrust them.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 2, 1862.

Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: Please order Colonel Farnsworth and Colonel Averell at once to take all the cavalry that can be collected, with the exception of two squadrons, and go back to assist in covering the rear of our column and in bringing up artillery and troops. Instruct them to go as far back toward Porter's old camp as possible, and to remain in rear long enough to get up all the wagons possible. If they find any impossibilities in getting them along, let them destroy them and drive forward the animals. Tell them expressly that the commanding general relies on them to fulfill all that can be done by cavalry. Send other regiments or companies under their command if they can be found, and if Colonel Gregg is here let him be sent to assist.

Respectfully,

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

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[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 2, 1862.

General Keyes will please cause the within instructions to be promptly executed. It is understood that Colonels Farnsworth's and Gregg's regiments are with him.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 2, 1862.

Brig. Gen. E. D. KEYES:

GENERAL: I have ordered back to your assistance all the cavalry that can be raised here. It is of the utmost importance that we should save all our artillery and as many of our wagons as possible, and the commanding general feels the utmost confidence that you will do all that can be done to accomplish this. Permit me to say that if you bring in everything you will accomplish a most signal and meritorious exploit, which the commanding general will not fail to represent in its proper light to the Department.

Very respectfully,

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, July 3, 1862.

Major-General DIX, *Fort Monroe:*

What is the latest information you have from General McClellan's army and the James River? Report at least every three hours until further order.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *July* 3, 1862—1 p. m.
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The last news from General McClellan is contained in his dispatch to the President sent two hours ago. There was no fighting yesterday, and I hope for the best from that circumstance. His position is said to be very strong. I have sent a party to put up wires from Williamsburg to Jamestown Island. If [they] are not disturbed by the enemy, I think we could hear from McClellan after to-morrow three times a day. Now we can only hear once.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

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FORT MONROE, *July* 3, 1862—3 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

I have just received the following dispatch from Colonel Hawkins. I do not quite understand why General Burnside should not have sent it in his own name, if it comes from or is authorized by him. The officer who brought it says Colonel Hawkins sent it, with the assurance that General Burnside would approve it:

HEADQUARTERS ROANOKE ISLAND,
July 2, 1862—6 p. m.

General DIX:

I wish you would telegraph immediately to President Lincoln if he has any orders other than the last sent some three days ago for General Burnside. We are almost ready to move in obedience to that order. If Richmond be taken the President may wish to change his instructions. Please give me General McClellan's position when last heard from. Please return the dispatch boat immediately, as the news which it brings will, I think, govern the operations in this department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RUSH C. HAWKINS,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade and Post.

P. S.—We shall be ready to move in twenty-four hours.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *July* 3, 1862.

Colonel HAWKINS,
Commanding at Roanoke Island:

Your telegram of July 2 to General Dix has just been received. Richmond is not taken. General McClellan has been compelled to fall back to Harrison's Bar, on the James River. It is the opinion of the President, and he so directs, that General Burnside in person, with all the infantry force he can spare, move by way of Hampton Roads and the James River to General McClellan's headquarters to re-enforce him immediately.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *July* 3, 1862—8.10 p. m.

The PRESIDENT:

Soon after sending you Colonel Hawkins' dispatch I received from General McClellan an order to General Burnside to bring on all the troops he could spare. I sent it off immediately, with a letter from myself describing to General Burnside the position of General McClellan's army. The steamer having gone, I cannot send your dispatch to Colonel Hawkins until morning. I will do so then, if you desire it.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *July* 3, 1862.

Major-General HUNTER:
Commanding Department of the South, Hilton Head, S. C.:

GENERAL: The condition of the army under General McClellan requires that the whole available infantry forces of the Government

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should be immediately sent to his command on the James River. The President therefore directs that you immediately forward all the infantry force that can be spared to Fort Monroe, thence to proceed according to orders to be received on their arrival at that place. It is believed that you can forward 10,000 infantry, and if more can be sent with safety to your command, it is hoped you will do so with your accustomed energy and promptness. No artillery or cavalry are wanted.

Very respectfully,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

Capt. W. W. McKim, assistant quartermaster, Boston, Mass., will forward above as soon as possible.

By order of Secretary of War:

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., July 3, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

Yours of 5.30 yesterday is just received. I am satisfied that yourself, officers, and men have done the best you could. All accounts say better fighting was never done. Ten thousand thanks for it.

On the 28th we sent General Burnside an order to send all the force he could spare to you. We then learned that you had requested him to go to Goldsborough; upon which we said to him our order was intended for your benefit and we did not wish to be in conflict with your views.

We hope you will have help from him soon. To-day we have ordered General Hunter to send you all he can spare. At last advices General Halleck thinks he cannot send re-enforcements without endangering all he has gained.

A. LINCOLN,
President.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Harrison's Bar, July 3, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: In order to insure a perfect understanding of the exact condition of this army, I have directed my chief of staff, General R. B. Marcy, to repair to Washington and give you full explanations of the events of the last few weeks.

A simple summary is, that this army has fought every day for a week against superior numbers, holding its own at least, often repulsing the enemy by day, then retiring at night. Our light and heavy guns are saved, with the exception of one. All the wagons are now within the line of pickets, and I hope will all be saved. The army is thoroughly worn-out, and requires rest and very heavy re-enforcements.

Our losses have been very great, for the fighting has been desperate, and officers and men have behaved heroically.

I am in hopes that the enemy is as completely worn-out as we are. He was certainly very severely punished in the last battle. The roads are

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now very bad. For these reasons I hope that we shall have enough breathing space to reorganize and rest the men and get them into position before the enemy can attack again. I have ordered Burnside to bring up all his available force, and leave to your judgment the question of evacuating New Berne and its dependencies, so as to bring any available men to re-enforce this army. It is of course impossible to estimate as yet our losses, but I doubt whether there are to-day more than 50,000 men with their colors.

To accomplish the great task of capturing Richmond and putting an end to this rebellion re-enforcements should be sent to me rather much over than much less than 100,000 men.

I beg that you will be fully impressed by the magnitude of the crisis in which we are placed. We require action on a gigantic scale—one commensurate with the views I expressed in a memorandum to the President submitted early last August, when first ordered to command the Army of the Potomac. The safety of the country and the preservation of its honor demand the utmost energy and intelligence.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS,
July 3, 1862—12.30 p. m.

Major-General McCLELLAN, *Commanding:*

Captain Reno has just returned from a reconnaissance on the Charles City road. He went almost 1½ miles from the mill near General Keyes' headquarters, when he found the enemy. They had two guns in position on the right of the road and were firing across the creek in the direction of Kearny's camp. Their battery was supported by a force of cavalry and infantry. He could not see many men, and thinks the force was a small one. Some of the shells went over the woods and fell in this field several hundred yards beyond the road. Captain Reno's party was near their cavalry; he thinks they had but one squadron.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. REAR GUARD ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 3, 1862—6 p. m.

General McCLELLAN:

SIR: At midnight on the 1st I was advised of your movement, and that I was to command the rear guard, consisting of my own small division. Although exhausted by unremitting labors and loss of rest, I made up my mind to give you all my energies and aim to save your whole train.

At 2 a. m. I was in the saddle, with my line of battle formed on the crest this side of your headquarters. I did not dismount until every command, all the batteries, wagons, and stragglers had passed my line. Although my orders were of a nature to warrant my following close to the troops and batteries, I resolved to protect the whole train to the extent of my ability. After the delays consequent upon the heavy rain I decided that I would halt at the creek or run, and place a

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brigade and battery on one side, and a brigade on the other side of the heavy timber in supporting distance. Some shells were thrown into the train yesterday and also to-day, but failed to stampede.

After passing the whole day here I am proud to say that everything of your fine army is over the creek save my guard, and that the loss of property is very trifling.

I shall soon pass my guard to the crest of the opposite side, where I have arranged a battery so as to sweep the approaches.

I am, in haste, very truly,

JOHN J. PECK,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. REAR GUARD ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near the Harrison House, Va., July 3, 1862—6 p. m.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

SIR: It affords me great pleasure to inform you that the entire Army of the Potomac, with its immense trains (save my guard), has safely passed the creek or run which has caused us so much trouble and delay. This has been accomplished without any sacrifice of property, and in the face of the greatest difficulties and discouragements. All the attempts of the enemy to stampede the trains by shells from different points proved utterly abortive.

So soon as the wagons clear from the woods I shall proceed to bring over my command by detachments, covering the movement by a section of artillery from a commanding position.

My new line of battle will be formed on the right and left of the main road until otherwise ordered. I shall have the territory across the creek thoroughly picketed.

In haste, very respectfully,

JOHN J. PECK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division and Rear Guard.

WASHINGTON CITY, *July* 4, 1862.

JOHN TUCKER, Esq.,
Assistant Secretary of War, Corinth:

Dispatches from General Halleck since you left here render it doubtful whether General Halleck can spare any forces consistently with contemplated operations and the necessities of his own command. If, on consultation with him, this should prove to be the case, you will ascertain from him whatever wants can be supplied by this Department and report to me for further orders.

Advices from General McClellan as late as 9 this morning state that his forces are at Harrison's Landing, on the James River, and had thus far repulsed the attacks made by the enemy. His loss has been very heavy, and his necessity for re-enforcement is pressing. The President, by telegram this morning, communicated with General Halleck his views, and it is needless for me to add more.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
July 4, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK, *Corinth, Miss.:*

You do not know how much you would oblige us if, without abandoning any of your positions or plans, you could promptly send us even 10,000 infantry. Can you not? Some part of the Corinth army is certainly fighting McClellan in front of Richmond. Prisoners are in our hands from the late Corinth army.

A. LINCOLN.

HARRISON'S BAR, JAMES RIVER,
July 4, 1862—1 p. m. (Received July 5, 12.50 a. m.)

The PRESIDENT:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of yesterday afternoon. I thank you for your expression of satisfaction with the conduct of this army and myself.

On yesterday I ordered General Burnside to send me such re-enforcements as he could afford. I thank you for the order to General Hunter to send me all the troops he can spare. I regret that General Halleck considers all his force necessary to maintain his position. I do not wish to endanger in any way the secure occupation of what has been gained in the Southwest. I will do the best I can with such force as I have and such aid as you can give me. I think that the Army of Virginia should keep out cavalry reconnaissances in the direction of Richmond, lest the enemy should prefer an advance to Washington to attacking this army. I wish to be advised fully of all matters in front of that army. If the capital be threatened, I will move this army, at whatever hazard, in such direction as will best divert the enemy.

Our whole army is now drawn up for review in its positions, bands playing, salutes being fired, and all things looking bright.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., July 4, 1862.

General McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I have seen the President and Secretary of War. Ten thousand men from Hunter, 10,000 from Burnside, and 11,000 from here have been ordered to re-enforce you as soon as possible. Halleck has been urged by the President to send you at once 10,000 men from Corinth.

The President and Secretary speak very kindly of you and find no fault.

I will remain here until I hear from you.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

NORFOLK, *July* 4, 1862—12.30 p. m.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

No news of any kind from up James River up to this hour. I argue favorably from this, as Com. Rodgers is directed to keep me informed of

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all events of importance. Am told that both the President and yourself are naturally very anxious to know at the earliest moment possible all that transpires of serious occurrence. All the guns at both forts on Day's Point and Harden's Bluff I have had burst or broken—rendered entirely useless.

Seventeen gunboats in all are at the scene of action, and another, the Cœur-de-Lion, will go up the river to-night. She came down to be repaired. The Tioga has not arrived. Orders await her at Fort Monroe to go up the James River without a moment's delay.

GOLDSBOROUGH.

WASHINGTON CITY, *July* 4, 1862.

Major-General DIX,
Fort Monroe:

Send forward the dispatch to Colonel Hawkins and this also. Our order and General McClellan's to General Burnside being the same, of course we wish it executed as promptly as possible.

A. LINCOLN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA,
Washington, D. C., July 4, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, on James River:

GENERAL: As you have doubtless been informed, I was a few days since assigned by the President to the command of the forces and departments lately under the command of Generals Frémont, Banks, and McDowell.

I avail myself of the first moment, after ascertaining the strength, positions, and condition of the force thus assigned me, to communicate with you. I beg you to understand that it is my earnest wish to cooperate in the heartiest and most energetic manner with you, and that there is no service, whatever the hazard or the labor, which I am not ready to perform with this army to carry out that object.

That you may understand precisely what means are at my disposal for such a purpose and what is expected of me I will proceed to give you in detail the information which will enable you to understand precisely my situation and the power I have to aid your operations. Do not hesitate to suggest frankly and freely to me any views and wishes you may entertain in regard to the assistance I can give you. Be assured that your suggestions will be received with all kindness and as far as possible adopted. I am guided, and shall be, by an earnest wish to contribute by every possible means within my control to the success of your operations.

You know the history of the late peculiar operations in the Shenandoah Valley, and that General Frémont has retired from his command for reasons unnecessary to set forth. The forces lately under his command and those of General Banks are collected in the neighborhood of Strasburg and Middletown. They are much demoralized and broken down, and unfit for active service for the present. Of some use they can be, but not much just now. They are scattered at small posts, but are now being concentrated. They number about 23,000 men of all arms.

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The army corps of General McDowell, about 19,000 strong, is by far the best, and in fact the only reliable portion of my command. One division is at Manassas, the other at Fredericksburg.

General Sturgis is in command of the forces within and outside of the intrenchments near Washington. They number altogether about 17,000 men, mostly raw recruits and fragments of broken regiments, in no condition for service.

My first object is to concentrate all these forces (except those under Sturgis), as far as practicable, in advance of this place, both to put them in condition for active operations and to have them in hand. In this arrangement the security of the valley of the Shenandoah and of the city of Washington must be held in view. I have therefore broken up the depots on the Ohio River and on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and established my depots and base of operations at Alexandria. I am concentrating the two corps of Frémont (now Sigel's) and Banks near Luray Gap (Sperryville); Banks' about 5 or 6 miles east of that place.

The division of McDowell, now at Manassas, has moved forward to Warrenton and taken post. His cavalry brigade has advanced to Warrenton Junction, with strong cavalry pickets south of the Rappahannock. The division at Fredericksburg pickets the country 20 miles in advance of that place. A good stone turnpike connects Luray with Warrenton. It was my purpose, before the news of your critical situation reached here, to concentrate the two divisions of McDowell at Orange Court-House and the corps of Banks and Sigel at Stanardsville; thence to occupy Gordonsville long enough to destroy entirely the Virginia Central road between that place and Hanover Court-House, and to move on Charlottesville, or a point east of that place, with my whole force united; to destroy the railroad between Lynchburg and Charlottesville, and also, by pushing cavalry in various directions toward it, to destroy the railroad from Lynchburg to Richmond; to move down to James River at Columbia, and to pursue the north (left) bank of the river toward Richmond at least as far as Tuckahoe Creek; to take up a strong position behind that creek, and throw bridges over the James River or secure those now existing within the proposed lines, so as to be able to throw my whole force across to the south side whenever it became necessary. Having secured these objects, to aid you in any way in the immediate operations against Richmond.

The occurrences of the last few days have deranged this plan, and I am holding my forces at the points I have designated, so as to be able, by marching rapidly on Gordonsville and Charlottesville, to cut off any force which may penetrate into the valley of the Shenandoah from the direction of Richmond, and at the same time be able to concentrate my whole force with little delay in front of Washington in case of necessity. These positions I shall hold until some well-defined plan of operations and co-operation can be determined on.

It seems to me that it will not be difficult for the enemy at Richmond to detach 50,000 men to march rapidly on Washington if it be uncovered by the movement of the forces now under my command in any direction. Much of my cavalry I am keeping in the valley of the Shenandoah, and as soon as my forces are established as I have designated, they (the cavalry) will be pushed as far south as Swift Run Gap and Harrisonburg. I have intrenched a brigade of infantry with one battery at Winchester; a somewhat smaller force will be posted in a like manner at Romney. The small posts at Clarksburg, Beverly, Buckhannon, &c., are placed under charge of General Kelley, who has some

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force also on the railroad. The care and protection of the road has been assigned to General Wool, so that I am foot-loose in that region.

I have directed General Cox, who has about 12,000 men in the Kanawha Valley, near Lewisburg, to maneuver so as to get Heth and Humphrey Marshall between himself and Lexington or Lynchburg, and then follow them through to Lexington by the turnpike, and open communication with Staunton or Charlottesville, abandoning entirely his line to Point Pleasant, on the Ohio, and calling in his small posts. Of course this movement will depend upon whether my operations toward Charlottesville and Richmond are carried out.

Your position on James River places the whole of the enemy's force around Richmond between yourself and Washington. Were I to move with my command direct on Richmond I must fight the whole force of the enemy before I could join you, and at so great a distance from you as to be beyond any assistance from your army. If my command be embarked and sent to you by James River the enemy would be in Washington before it had half accomplished the journey.

Under these circumstances my position here is difficult and embarrassing. Whilst I am very anxious to render you all the assistance in my power, the imperative necessity of insuring the safety of the capital must control my operations.

You now know my position and resources. A movable force of 43,000 men (19,000 in good order), posted as I have detailed to you, are all I have, and I am made responsible for the security of this city.

I trust you will communicate your wishes to me, and give me the benefit of any views and suggestions which will enable me to aid you. I need not repeat that I stand prepared to do all in my power for that purpose.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO POPE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH PROVISIONAL CORPS,
Harrison's Bar, July 4, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to present to the consideration of the commanding general this my recommendation that Brig. Gen. P. St. George Cooke be relieved from the command of the cavalry now serving with this army.

At the battle of the Chickahominy, on the 27th ultimo, I directed, in person, General Cooke to keep the cavalry below the hill in the valley, notifying him there was no use of cavalry on the hill, and I desired him to look to my left flank in the valley and not to come on the hill. Just at dusk, and as all my artillery was getting into action and driving the enemy from our front and checking pursuit of some disorganized forces, I was horrified to find cavalry charging through the batteries on my left and the men fleeing in terror. No efforts could stop them nor the artillery. The cavalry there caused the loss of this action and the abandonment of eight pieces of artillery.

I have since learned that General Cooke, after leading a portion (First and Fifth Cavalry and Lancers) of the cavalry under his command to attack immediately on the left of the batteries, left them in

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charge of Captain Whiting, with discretionary power to act as he did best think.

The regiments entered to the left of the batteries so close as to frighten the horses and make them unmanageable. They turned, running through the batteries, carrying men and batteries with them. I was also informed that as soon as this disaster was created he directed his command at once to return and cross the river, which he did without an effort to check the tide of frightened men, and setting a bad example to the troops.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. J. PORTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CAMP NEAR HARRISON'S BAR, *July* 4, 1862.

Brigadier-General LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

General Casey has reported here to me from the White House. I have no command which can be given him with a beneficial result to the public service. I have great respect for the military information and character of General Casey, but his health and years do not fit him for the active command of troops serving under the circumstances under which this army has now to make its way. I have therefore been compelled, relúctantly, to order him to repair to Washington.

S. WILLIAMS,*
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., July 5, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN:

I have nominated for promotion General Sumner as brevet major-general of the regular service and major-general of volunteers; Generals Heintzelman, Keyes, and Porter as brevet brigadiers in the regular service and major-generals of volunteers. The gallantry of every officer and man in your noble army shall be suitably acknowledged.

General Marcy is here. He will take you cheering news. Be assured that you shall have the support of this Department and the Government as cordially and faithfully as was ever rendered by man to man, and if we should ever live to see each other face to face you will be satisfied that you have never had from me anything but the most confiding integrity.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley, July 5, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I now have this army placed in a satisfactory position for defensive purposes; one, too, which

* So signed in the original.

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covers the *debouchés* in both directions, and enables me at any time to resume the offensive, which I hope soon to be in condition to undertake. My men are in excellent spirits. A short time will fully rest them, and the arrival of re-enforcements enable me to take care of my communications. You may rest assured, general, that Richmond shall yet be taken if I am properly supported.

If I am not attacked in the morning I shall feel the enemy with some strength, and at once take steps to ascertain his position and prevent him from assuming a new line of operations.

I have every reason to believe that our victory at Malvern Hill was a crushing one—one from which he will not readily recover.

It is not my present intention to fall back another mile. I will run the risk of the interruption of our communications by the James River.

I inclose with this copies of a proclamation I have just issued to the troops.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., July 4, 1862.

Soldiers of the Army of the Potomac:

Your achievements of the last ten days have illustrated the valor and endurance of the American soldier. Attacked by vastly superior forces, and without hope of re-enforcements, you have succeeded in changing your base of operations by a flank movement, always regarded as the most hazardous of military expedients. You have saved all your material, all your trains, and all your guns, except a few lost in battle, taking in return guns and colors from the enemy. Upon your march you have been assailed day after day with desperate fury by men of the same race and nation skillfully massed and led; and under every disadvantage of numbers, and necessarily of position also, you have in every conflict beaten back your foes with enormous slaughter.

Your conduct ranks you among the celebrated armies of history. No one will now question that each of you may always say with pride, "I belonged to the Army of the Potomac!"

You have reached this new base complete in organization and unimpaired in spirit. The enemy may at any moment attack you. We are prepared to receive them. I have personally established your lines. Let them come, and we will convert their repulse into a final defeat. Your Government is strengthening you with the resources of a great people.

On this our nation's birthday we declare to our foes, who are rebels against the best interests of mankind, that this army shall enter the capital of their so-called Confederacy; that our National Constitution shall prevail, and that the Union, which can alone insure internal peace and external security to each State, must and shall be preserved, cost what it may in time, treasure, and blood.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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FORT MONROE, *July* 5, 1862—1 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I have just received dispatches from General McClellan the same as those to President. They are dated noon yesterday. His last words are, "The national salute is firing; bands are playing; the troops are in fine spirits."

My messenger left hour later. All right then.

JOHN A. DIX.

WASHINGTON CITY, *July* 5, 1862.

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Via Fort Monroe:

The Department has no further orders to give, but hopes you will with all speed reach General McClellan with as large a force as possible.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, July 5, 1862—2.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. E. V. SUMNER,
Commanding Second Corps:

Information, supposed to be reliable, has reached these headquarters that the Confederate forces under Lee, with Johnston, Longstreet, Jackson, &c., are very near us, in front of our whole line, and that an attack may be expected at any moment.

Immediately upon hearing any heavy firing the general wishes you to have your men under arms, with your batteries harnessed. Do not, however, disturb your troops until the action has commenced. Wherever the heavy firing begins report by a staff officer at once to the general headquarters, which will be at the barn near Sykes' headquarters, where you met the general day before yesterday. The spot will be indicated by a small national color. If the headquarters are changed, aides will be left to designate their new position.

I am directed by the general to say that in no event are you to move your troops without the general's orders, unless a portion of the line should give way, and as a matter of life and death your immediate movement is indispensable to retrieve the fortunes of the day. In that event you will report the circumstance to General Headquarters, stating the force you have sent. The general wishes to hold your corps in hand to follow up a repulse of the enemy, which he regards as certain should he attack.

The general has directed ammunition to be loaded up. Send staff officers to the depot to see where the ammunition is and to secure its coming to the front with certainty and rapidity at the moment needed.

The general wishes you to detail plenty of staff assistance from your command, and to be in constant communication with him once at least every half hour should an engagement take place.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, July 5, 1862—Midnight.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM B. FRANKLIN,
Commanding Sixth Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding has information from a prisoner that Lee, Johnston, Longstreet, &c., are within 4 miles of us. If this is true we may probably expect an attack to-morrow. The prisoner is now being re-examined by Colonel Key. If Alexander's redoubt is at all defensible by morning the general thinks it would be well to have the guns in battery at that time all ready for action. Have your troops under arms a little before daylight, batteries harnessed, and cavalry saddled. If within an hour after daylight your pickets report no new movement of the enemy, set your working parties to work as vigorously as possible; continue the work on the redoubt as rapidly as possible until the last moment, and, if possible, abatis it.

The general suggests the construction of rifle pits for your infantry and epaulements for your light batteries. Look well to your left, and be ready to support it in the event of an action. Headquarters will in the first place be near the barn near Sykes' headquarters. Hold your own as long as possible, without calling your own reserves into action or sending for the general's reserves, as it is the desire of the general commanding to follow up with the reserves the repulse of the enemy, which he believes will be the certain consequence of an attack upon us in our present position.

Do you need more light batteries; if so, how many, and of what caliber?

Your position must be held at any cost, and you will be supported to any necessary extent.

Reserve ammunition will be loaded in wagons, ready to send forward as soon as your ordnance officers call for it at the ammunition landing. You had better push it up as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The general commanding expects you to keep him constantly advised of the progress of affairs in your front, and in case of an engagement he wishes to hear from you at least once every half hour; always in writing, if possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., July 6, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK,
Corinth, Miss.:

MY DEAR SIR: This introduces Governor William Sprague, of Rhode Island. He is now Governor for the third time and Senator elect of the United States. I know the object of his visit to you. He has my cheerful consent to go, but not my direction. He wishes to get you and part of your force, one or both, to come here. You already know I should be exceedingly glad of this, if in your judgment it could be,

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without endangering positions and operations in the Southwest; and I now repeat what I have more than once said by telegraph:

Do not come or send a man if in your judgment it will endanger any point you deem important to hold or endanger or delay the Chattanooga expedition.

Still please give my friend Governor Sprague a full and fair hearing.

Yours, very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 6, 1862—12.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. P. HEINTZELMAN,
Commanding Third Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that he has information, which is supposed to be reliable, that the Confederate Army with Lee, Jackson, Johnston, Longstreet, &c., are very near us, and that we may look for an attack at any moment.

Please have your troops ready for action at daybreak under arms and your batteries in position.

Endeavor to hold your own against the first attack with the fewest possible number of troops consistent with safety, so as to bring fresh troops repeatedly into action as the attack of the enemy continues. General Sumner's corps is in reserve behind you. Slocum's division can support Kearny, provided there is no attack within an hour after daybreak.

Prosecute as speedily as possible with your working parties the work which has been assigned you.

The general commanding expects you to keep him constantly advised of the progress of affairs in your front, and in case of an engagement he wishes to hear from you at least once every half hour, if possible.

Reserve ammunition will be loaded in wagons, ready to send forward as soon as your ordnance officers call for it, at the ammunition landing. You had better push it up as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 6, 1862—1 a. m.

Brig. Gen. FITZ JOHN PORTER,
Commanding Fifth Provisional Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that he has information from a prisoner, which is supposed to be reliable, that the Confederate forces under Generals Jackson, Longstreet, Johnston, &c., are near us, and that an attack may be expected at any moment.

Hunt should have his batteries harnessed at daybreak. In case of an attack, your troops should be under arms at once. It will not be necessary for you to get your infantry under arms unless you hear heavy firing.

In the event of an attack, the General Headquarters will be near the barn near your headquarters, where you will report for orders.

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Don't advance your troops unless absolutely necessary, as the general commanding desires to keep your command fresh to follow up a repulse, which he thinks will be a necessary result if the enemy attacks.

If there is any unfinished work on your bridges, please push them as rapidly as possible.

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Reserve ammunition will be loaded in wagons, ready to send forward as soon as your ordnance officers call for it, at the ammunition landing. You had better push it up as rapidly as possible.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, July 6, 1862.

Brigadier-General KEYES,
Commanding Fourth Corps:

GENERAL: Information, supposed to be reliable, has reached these headquarters that the Confederate forces under Lee, with Longstreet, Jackson, Johnston, &c., are very near us in front of our whole line, and that an attack may be expected at any moment.

The general commanding directs that you have your command under arms a little before daybreak, your batteries in position, your men on the alert, and your pickets as well thrown out as possible.

Endeavor to get Couch's division in position as soon as possible after daylight, concerting the movement with Generals Heintzelman and Hooker.

Use the fewest possible number of troops consistent with security to repel the first attacks of the enemy in order to bring up fresh troops to oppose his renewed attacks.

The corps of General Sumner is in reserve to support your corps and that of Heintzelman. The entire corps of Porter is also in reserve on the right, ready to be thrown to any point it may be needed.

Inform the general at once what ammunition you need and what caliber you require.

The gunboats will cover your flank effectually and fully, and if the trees have not been cut down which intercept the view of the gunboats, put a heavy additional force at once to accomplish that important object.

If within an hour after daylight you are not attacked, you are to put your working parties to work in completing your defenses.

Be sure to establish by means of flags the range for the gunboats and to have a signal officer on duty with you.

The reserve ammunition loaded up. Send your ordnance officers to the depot to see to the matter, that ammunition may be brought up with certainty and celerity as it may be required.

The General Headquarters will be established, in case of an engagement, at the barn near Sykes' headquarters. The spot will be indicated by a small national color. In the event of the headquarters leaving the place, aides will remain to designate the place they have gone to.

Communicate frequently to headquarters as to the progress of affairs, at least once every half hour in case of an engagement, and always in writing, if possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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FORT MONROE, *July* 6, 1862—9 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Generals Porter and Naglee arrived here at 6 this morning from General McClellan on the way to Washington. The army occupies a strong position, and I think you may dismiss all apprehension in regard to its safety. The forbearance of the enemy for five days is the best evidence that they have suffered severely and are in no condition to attack.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *July* 6, 1862—10 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The enemy have retired from New Kent Court-House to White House. Our scouts approached within 1½ miles of the latter point, captured one of Stuart's cavalry, and were fired on. Stuart's cavalry is there in considerable force.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. FIFTH PROV. ARMY CORPS, *James River, Va., July* 6, 1862.

The commanding general congratulates the officers and men of the Fifth Corps of the Army of the Potomac on the perils through which they have so honorably passed, and the success they have added by their valor to the glory of our arms in the following actions, namely:

Battle of Yorktown, April 5.
Siege of Yorktown, April 5 to May 4.
Battle of New Bridge, May 24.
Battle of Hanover Court-House, May 27.
Battle of Mechanicsville, June 26 and 27.
Battle of Chickahominy, June 27.
Battle of New Market, June 30.
Battle of Turkey Bridge, June 30.
Battle of Malvern, July 1.

The regiments and batteries engaged are entitled to inscribe on their banners these battles.

The commanding general has to inform the corps, and to offer his congratulations with the information, that he has received assurances from the Government at Washington that the efforts and successes above mentioned have received its attention and earned both approval and reward; and, further, that this reward will be duly apportioned and bestowed as soon as time will allow the detailed reports of the operations to be completed, specifying the individuals of all ranks particularly worthy of the gratitude of their country.

In making this acknowledgment to his own corps, the commanding general cannot omit to include in all his congratulations those brave fellow-soldiers whose assistance has arrived so timely in each of our hours of need. The brigades of Newton, Taylor, and Bartlett, in Franklin's corps, at the battle of Chickahominy, those of Meagher and Sickles, from Sumner and Heintzelman, as well as the division of General Couch,

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which fought by our side in the glorious fight of Malvern, form part of all our memories of those days.

By command of Brig. Gen. F. J. Porter:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 154. } WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE, *Washington, July* 6, 1862.

* * * * * * *

2. Brig. Gen. H. Prince, U. S. Volunteers, is relieved from duty with the Army of Virginia, and will report to Major-General McClellan, commanding Army of the Potomac.

3. The artillery officers of the graduating class from West Point, except those retained for the summer on duty at the Military Academy, will repair without delay to the Headquarters Army of the Potomac, and report to Major-General McClellan.

By order of the Secretary of War:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., July 7, 1862.

Major-General DIX:

No cavalry or other force should move from Fort Monroe until the President arrives.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *July* 7, 1862—4.40 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Arrived here safely with the advance of my command. I bring near 8,000 good men. Please give me any instructions you may have. I shall leave as soon as the bulk of the command arrives. It takes some time for all the vessels to pass the swash. If necessary, I will go right up.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, July 7, 1862.

President LINCOLN:

SIR: I beg to inclose a copy of a letter of this date from me to Major-General Pope, which shows the existing condition of matters in respect to my position and prospects and the *morale* of the troops as well as a more formal statement could do.

The enemy are disturbing my communications by firing with field batteries upon transports, creating some annoyance.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, July 7, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN POPE,
Commanding Army of Virginia:

GENERAL: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, and to thank you for your offers of co-operation and assistance. I cordially approve your project of concentrating your troops. The departure from this wise principle has been the cause of all our trouble in front of Washington. I cannot too strongly represent to you the pressing necessity there is for the rapid concentration of your forces, for it is not yet determined which policy the enemy intends to pursue, whether to attack Washington or to bestow his entire attention upon the army.

I am in a very strong natural position, rendered stronger every day by the labor of the troops, and which in a few days will be impregnable. I hope in the course of to-morrow to seize a position on the right bank of the James, which will enable me to use either bank of that river at will. I am pushing up supplies as rapidly as possible, in order to be perfectly independent of the navigation of the river until strong re-enforcements can reach me. The army is in admirable spirits and discipline. It would fight better to-morrow than it ever did before. I shall carefully watch for any fault committed by the enemy and take advantage of it. As soon as Burnside arrives I will feel the force of the enemy and ascertain his exact position. If I learn that he has moved upon you I will move upon Richmond, do my best to take it, and endeavor to cut off his retreat.

If you are not molested, I would urge that you lose not a day in the concentration of your troops, and at least push your cavalry so far forward as to partially divert the attention of the enemy from this army.

The Army of the Potomac has lost heavily in killed and wounded during the series of desperate battles which it has given during the past two weeks, but I repeat it is in no way disheartened. Its *morale*, discipline, and desire to fight are not only unimpaired but increased. Although to insure success it is absolutely necessary that we promptly receive heavy re-enforcements, the spirit of this army is such that I feel unable to restrain it from speedily resuming the offensive, unless reconnaissances should develop so overwhelming a force of the enemy in front as to render it out of the question. Even in that event we will endeavor to find some weak point in the enemy's lines which we will attack in order to break it.

I would be glad to be in daily communication with you, both by telegraph and by letter.

I may say in conclusion that so far as my position is concerned I feel abundantly able to repulse any attack. I fear only for the other side of the river and for my communications.

To preserve the *morale* of my men I must maintain my present position as long as it is possible. Therefore I shall not fall back unless absolutely forced to do so.

Again thanking you for your cordial offer of support, I am, very sincerely, yours,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 137. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., July 7, '62.*

The following regulations are published for the information and government of all concerned:

All regimental surgeons will report at once to their regiments, to take care of the regimental sick and wounded, sending no one to the transports who can be treated in regimental hospitals. Regimental surgeons will make all their reports, requisitions, &c., direct to the medical directors of army corps. The latter will examine and countersign all requisitions for medical supplies and hospital stores in their corps, except special requisitions, upon which the medical purveyor will issue; an abundance of supplies are on hand, and no excuse will be taken for deficiencies in these materials.

The grade of brigade surgeons having been abolished, all brigade surgeons are relieved from duty with their brigades; those surgeons who have heretofore acted in this capacity will report immediately to the medical directors of their respective corps, who will organize them into a reserve corps. They will be under the orders of the medical directors of the corps, and will, under their directions, be assigned to the duty of establishing field hospitals in time of action, taking care of the sick and wounded who shall be sent to the rear from the field; for this purpose selecting such buildings as may be most convenient and suitable for the purpose, the senior surgeon being in charge, and held to a strict accountability that supplies of medical instruments, food, &c., details for nurses (the latter taken as far as possible from the bands), be at all times on hand; the field hospitals will be formed on the basis of one for each division. The Reserve Corps will also be liable to detail by the medical directors of corps for such duties as the exigencies of the service may require. The necessary transportation for this corps will be furnished by the division quartermasters.

Regimental surgeons will on no pretext whatever be allowed to leave their regiments on the field for the purpose of taking care of the wounded and sick sent to the rear, but will remain with their commands, giving such aid and succor to the wounded as they may require on the spot.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., July 8, 1862.*

His Excellency the President of the United States will visit the troops of this army this afternoon, beginning at 5 o'clock with Sumner's corps, followed by Keyes', Heintzelman's, Franklin's, and Porter's corps, in the order named. He will be received with appropriate honors.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. CAV. DIV., ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *July 8, 1862.*

1. The following organization of the cavalry forces in this army is

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published for the information and immediate action of the commanding officers of the various regiments and detachments:

The Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Averell; First New York Cavalry, Colonel McReynolds; Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Childs, are assigned to the First Brigade, Col. William W. Averell commanding.

The Eighth Illinois Cavalry, Lieutenant-Colonel Gamble; the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Colonel Gregg, and the Sixth New York (two squadrons), Lieutenant-Colonel McVicar, to the Second Brigade, Col. D. McM. Gregg commanding.

Barker's squadron is assigned to the First [Second] *Corps d'Armée*, General Sumner.

De Laney's [?] squadron, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, to the Second [Third] Corps, General Heintzelman.

One squadron of the Eighth Illinois to the Third [Fourth] Corps, General Keyes.

One squadron of the First New York to the Fourth [Fifth] Corps, General Porter.

One squadron of the First New York to the Fifth [Sixth] Corps, General Franklin.

2. The brigade commanders will make the details specified in the foregoing paragraphs at once.

3. Colonel Averell, commanding First Brigade, will keep the country in front of the right wing of the army and on its right thoroughly scouted over and patrolled by strong parties, and will make a daily report to these headquarters of the results of the operations of his brigade for the information of the general commanding the Army of the Potomac.

4. Colonel Gregg, commanding Second Brigade, will do the same in regard to the left wing of the army, making the same reports daily as called for from Colonel Averell.

5. Colonel Rush will see that his regiment both officers and men, become thoroughly acquainted with all the country in the vicinity of this army, and detail an officer and 20 men to report daily at the headquarters of each army corps, to act as guides in that corps.

6. Each company will be allowed but one wagon, and in addition one wagon will be allowed to the officers of a squadron and one for the field and staff. All transportation over this in the regiment will be turned over to the quartermaster-in-chief of this army.

7. Brigade commanders will see that the regiments in this brigade are so located that they can have open country to form in, and, if possible, on main avenues of communication.

8. The whole regular cavalry will be consolidated into as many complete squadrons as the numbers present will allow, and the officers will be assigned to each as the interests of the service may demand.

By order of Brigadier-General Stoneman, commanding division:

A. J. ALEXANDER,
First Lieut., Fifth Cavalry, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 9, 1862—3 p. m. (Received 10.45 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

General Davidson found enemy's rear guard 4 miles off on Long Bridge road this morning. Several prisoners confirm previous state-

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ment, and I am now confident that enemy is in full retreat, probably destined for immediate vicinity of Richmond. Our cavalry has not yet returned nor sent in news. No reasons as yet to believe that any portion of enemy have moved on Washington. Jackson was in front of us yesterday. Shall watch closely and keep you constantly informed of what transpires.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, July 9, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. DIX,
Fort Monroe:

In reply to my inquiry you stated some time ago the number of regiments you had sent from Baltimore and Fort Monroe to General McClellan, but in some instances the strength of the regiments was not stated. Will you please to furnish me as quickly as possible with a statement showing the date and place from which each regiment was sent and the exact number of men in each, or as near an estimate as you can make. Specify the number of pieces of artillery and the number of rank and file.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

FORT MONROE, *July 9*, 1862—5.45 p. m.
(Received 6.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

In reply to your dispatch of to-day I have the honor to state that the Fifth New York had about 943 men, and the Second Delaware about 732. These regiments were sent from Baltimore, the former on the 31st March and the latter on the 31st May. Not having the records of the Middle Department, I may not give their strength to a man, but the returns in the Adjutant-General's Office of those dates will show. Of the regiments furnished from here early in June, the First New York had 954 men, the Second New York 895, the Seventh New York 891, the Tenth New York 953, the Twentieth New York 1,024, the Sixteenth Massachusetts 1,009, the Twenty-ninth Massachusetts 842, the First Michigan 875, and the Twentieth Indiana 999. The One hundred and first New York arrived here and was sent directly to General McClellan from the transports, so that I cannot give the strength of the regiment.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General, Commanding.

McCLELLAN'S HEADQUARTERS,
July 10, 1862—8 a. m.

The PRESIDENT:

All quiet. Enemy certainly beyond Malvern Hill. Hourly expect more definite news. Hope to have men refitted in all except artillery in two days.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley Landing, July 10, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I would beg leave to call your attention most urgently to the necessity of taking immediate measures for filling up to the regulation standard all the regiments and batteries of the regulars and volunteers composing this army. This system is by far preferable in every respect to that of raising new regiments and batteries.

If it can be done in no other way, I would suggest consolidating the old regiments into a small number of companies for each, and receiving the number of entire companies necessary to raise the regiments to the maximum standard.

If it be possible to fill up the existing skeleton companies it would be preferable, but it is probable that much valuable time would be gained by following the course first suggested.

I do not believe that any general system of recruiting for volunteers will succeed. It must be attempted for particular regiments and companies in the localities where they originated.

Recruits scattered among the veteran regiments would soon become efficient, while a long time would be required to render raw recruits reliable.

The regular batteries (I may say the same of the volunteers) are very deficient in men.

Commending this subject to the immediate attention of the Department, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *July* 10, 1862.

General GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Arrived here last night. Saw the Secretary this morning. He is disposed to do all in his power to assist you.

The proposed changes will be attended to at once, commencing with those most desired, and will be continued gradually till all are made.

The pontoons are at New York, but will be ordered to Fort Monroe. The ferry-boats will be attended to.*

R. B. MARCY.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., July 10, 1862.

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

GENERAL: I am informed this morning that Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan desires as many large ferry-boats as possible to be sent to him at once.

You will please take immediate measures to have them sent to him.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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* Some personal matter omitted.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY CORPS,
Fort Monroe, Va., July 10, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Department of Virginia:

GENERAL: I have sent a flag of truce to City Point with Lieutenant Thorbora, with two of our own paroled officers whose time expires to-night, and who reported to me at the last moment, and some political prisoners whom I have discharged under a stringent parole, as authorized by you.

I would have ordered Lieutenant Darling, of the Second Artillery, who goes with them, to report to you, but I supposed he could not avail himself of the protection of the flag up and down the river if he did not confine himself strictly to the purpose for which it is sent.

The 13-inch mortars have all been brought here from Yorktown; the 100 and 200 pound Parrott guns left there yesterday for this post. All the guns ordered removed by you have been sent here. The guns at Gloucester have been destroyed, as it was found exceedingly difficult to remove them. The guns remaining at Yorktown are fifty-four in number, chiefly of Richmond manufacture. Captain Gibson, of the Third Artillery, has been engaged very efficiently in aiding General Van Alen to make arrangements for the defense or evacuation of the place, as the exigencies of the service may require.

I am sorry to report that Lieutenant Bayley and nine men of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, imprudently sent off in the direction of Richmond from Matthews County, were captured and the former wounded. I shall ascertain who is responsible for this imprudence.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY CORPS,
Fort Monroe, Va., July 10, 1862.

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: I have just received your letter of this morning in regard to a portion of General Stoneman's cavalry still here.

When the President left Washington I received a dispatch by telegraph from the Secretary of War to send no more troops to the Army of the Potomac until the President's arrival.

After his return last evening I ordered transportation for the troops named in your note. They were embarking when the Secretary's dispatch was received to follow General Emory. The transportation for them will be ready to-morrow morning, and they ought to reach Harrison's Landing to-morrow evening. I ought to have reported the receipt of the Secretary's dispatch, but in the multiplicity of my engagements it was forgotten.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

CORINTH, MISS., *July* 10, 1862.
(Received Washington, D. C., July 10, 1862, 5 p. m.)

The PRESIDENT:

Governor Sprague is here. If I were to go to Washington I could advise but one thing—to place all the forces in North Carolina, Virginia,

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and Washington under one head, and hold that head responsible for the result.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

Abstract from Tri-monthly Return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan, U. S. Army, commanding, for July 10, 1862.

Command.	Present for duty.		Present for duty, equipped.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Field pieces of artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
General staff	46	.....	.....	46	57	.....
U. S. Engineers (Duane)	4	169	173	240	288	.....
Engineer Brigade (Woodbury)	58	1,180	1,230	1,457	1,635	.....
Escort to headquarters (McIntyre)	4	99	100	104	143	.....
Provost guard (A. Porter)	48	841	884	1,085	1,244	.....
Total	154	2,289	2,387	2,887	3,367	.....
Second Army Corps (Sumner's):						
Staff	6	.....	.....	6	9	.....
Sedgwick's division	328	7,777	7,804	9,167	11,535	12
Richardson's division	263	5,768	6,052	7,353	10,069	14
Artillery Reserve (Bartlett)	13	275	288	390	427	18
Total	630	13,820	14,144	16,946	22,040	44
Third Army Corps (Heintzelman's):						
Staff	11	.....	.....	11	13	.....
Artillery Reserve (De Russy)	11	347	358	408	441	18
Hooker's division	304	7,621	7,372	10,096	12,796	14
Kearny's division	303	6,731	7,084	9,208	13,063	10
Total	629	14,699	14,764	19,723	26,313	42
Fourth Army Corps (Keyes'):						
Staff	8	.....	8	8	10	.....
Artillery (West's)	29	654	688	763	961	36
First Division (Couch's)	275	6,398	6,673	7,871	11,423	.....
Second Division (Peck's)	324	6,178	6,502	7,967	13,584	.....
Total	636	13,230	13,866	16,609	25,978	36
Fifth Provisional Army Corps (Fits John Porter's):						
Staff	4	.....	.....	4	4	.....
Artillery Reserve (Hunt's)	61	1,703	1,764	2,077	2,909	104
Morell's division	322	7,979	8,297	9,756	12,901	.....
Sykes' division	193	4,517	4,706	5,605	7,146	.....
Seymour's division	287	6,004	6,078	7,467	9,972	7
Total	817	20,203	20,845	24,909	33,932	111
Sixth Provisional Army Corps (Franklin's):						
Staff	9	.....	9	9	9	.....
1st New York Cavalry	6	98	104	154	171	.....
Slocum's division	286	6,652	6,939	7,548	9,872	17
W. F. Smith's division	454	9,933	10,387	11,986	15,747	21
Total	755	16,683	17,439	19,697	25,799	38
Stoneman's cavalry division	194	4,536	4,716	5,336	6,976	.....
Fort Monroe, Va., and vicinity (Dix)	493	9,734	10,186	11,948	12,154	26
Quartermaster's guard (Ingalls)	19	265	284	309	477	.....
Total	706	14,525	15,186	16,943	19,609	26
Grand total	4,327	95,449	98,631	117,714	157,089	325

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 138. } *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., July* 10, '62.

I. At his own request, Brig. Gen. Stewart Van Vliet is relieved from

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duty as chief quartermaster of this army, and will proceed to Washington, and report for duty to the Quartermaster-General. In issuing this order, the general commanding cheerfully acknowledges the valuable services rendered by General Van Vliet in the organization and administration of his department in connection with this army.

II. Lieut. Col. Rufus Ingalls, aide-de-camp, is announced as chief quartermaster of the Army of the Potomac, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

III. Surg. Jonathan Letterman is announced as medical director of this army, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Harrison's Bar, July 10, 1862.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

SIR: After some inquiry, I find that my opinions agree essentially with the opinions of several officers whom I regard as the most able in this army, at the head of which is General Barnard, of the Engineers. I therefore venture to address a letter to Your Excellency.

The simple failure of this army to reach Richmond has given a serious aspect to our affairs, and after much reflection I have considered the subject of first importance to be the position which this army ought to occupy during the next two months.

Can this army remain here encamped at Harrison's Bar?

Clearly not, since the confinement to a small space, the heat, and sickliness of this camp would nearly destroy the army in two months, though no armed force should assail it. Moreover, the enemy being in possession of both banks of the James River above and below us, he will shortly find the means to cut us off from our supplies, or shut us up by means of fortifications and his abundant artillery, in such a manner as will give him time, ample time, to capture Washington before we could possibly go to its rescue.

Can this army leave its present camp to go and attack Richmond?

No; it cannot. To make this army to march on Richmond with any hope of success it must be re-enforced by at least 100,000 good troops. No officer here, whose opinion is worth one penny, will recommend a less number. To bring troops freshly raised at the North to this country in the months of July, August, and September would be to cast our resources into the sea. The raw troops would melt away and be ruined forever.

Some of our officers think that to remove this army to the neighborhood of Washington would be a virtual abandonment of our cause. I cannot regard the matter in that light at all. This army has not been defeated in battle, nor has it been repulsed in this campaign as often as it has repulsed the enemy. It is now in a strong position, with all its baggage. Sickness, and the approach of a more sickly season, together with the superiority in numbers and sanitary advantages on the part of the enemy, render it proper and advisable that we should return to our capital and a healthy country. Did not the Confederates return to their capital from Manassas, and afterward from Williamsburg did they not retreat in confusion? In the West the two armies have often been successful and unsuccessful, and have each frequently retreated in

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Missouri and elsewhere. Those fluctuations have in the end inured to our advantage.

To shut up this army on the James River is to make certain its destruction or its neutralization within the next two months, and then the North will be at the mercy of the South and the sport of the caprice of Europe.

Bring this army back to the neighborhood of Washington, to spacious, healthy camps, pass some laws which I could suggest, and at the end of three months it will be worth much more against an enemy than it was last March. The laws I refer to would force our able-bodied men to join the army and to remain with it; would estop rogues and pettifoggers from using the courts of law to rob such as are absent fighting, and would constrain to the public service all supplies and means of transportation at a reasonable price.

When a large army reaches, or is placed in, a position where it cannot hold the enemy in check nor operate effectively against him, it is a military axiom to move that army without delay. With a large, well-appointed army in any camp from which it can be employed we may bid defiance to our enemies. This army cannot be employed here, and the enemy may close its egress, for which reasons and many others I respectfully recommend that immediate instructions may be issued for its withdrawal.

All the available gunboats and men-of-war ought to assist in the movement, which ought to be made within the next forty-eight hours.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Brigadier-General, Fourth Army Corps.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
July 11, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK, *Corinth:*

The President has this day made the following order, which I hasten to communicate to you:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, July 11, 1862.

Ordered, That Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck be assigned to command the whole land forces of the United States as General-in-Chief, and that he repair to this capital so soon as he can with safety to the positions and operations within the department under his charge.

A. LINCOLN.

You will please acknowledge the receipt of this order, and state when you may be expected here. Your early presence is required by many circumstances.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CORINTH, MISS., *July* 11, 1862—3 p. m.
(Received Washington, D. C., 5.50 p. m.)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
President of the United States:

Your orders of this date are this moment received. General Grant,

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next in command, is at Memphis. I have telegraphed to him to immediately repair to this place.

I will start for Washington the moment I can have a personal interview with General Grant.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 11, 1862—8 a. m. (Received 5.10 p. m.)

The PRESIDENT:

The enemy have certainly retreated, but it has been in good order and with a fair amount of wagons. Our cavalry follow their rear guard closely and have taken a few prisoners, but have made no decided impression. None of the enemy appear to have crossed the Long Bridge, but all to have gone in direction of Richmond, some crossing White Oak Swamp; none toward mouth of Chickahominy now. Considerable force of enemy at Haxall's yesterday, probably cavalry, almost entirely. Stonewall Jackson not dead. Prisoners all state that I had 200,000 enemy to fight. A good deal more than two to one, and they knowing the ground.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

BERKELEY, VA., *July* 11, 1862—3 p. m.

The PRESIDENT:

To-day received letter from General R. E. Lee, offering to return to me on parole our wounded. I have accepted the offer, and will send transports as soon as he designates the place.

Enemy in some force at Haxall's. None in direction of Long Bridge or Lower Chickahominy. None nearer than 7 miles from here on this side James River. We are very strong here now, so far as defensive is concerned. Hope you will soon make us strong enough to advance and try it again. All in fine spirits.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley, July 11, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army:

GENERAL: My cavalry yesterday pressed upon the enemy's rear guard. All the last accounts I learned yesterday evening were to the effect that his rear guard was not more than 7 miles from the White Oak Swamp, on the Long Bridge road, and that the main body had crossed the swamp, none of them having crossed the Long Bridge, but all apparently moving upon Richmond. The country south of us, *i. e.*, Charles City Court-House and north of the Chickahominy, seems to be entirely clear of them, and our cavalry is covering that entire region.

A considerable force was yesterday at Haxall's and Malvern Hill. The rebels are said to have had plenty of transportation, and their retreat has been concluded in an orderly manner.

Our cavalry have taken a few prisoners and killed a few. The health

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of our men continues fair. I have more complaints of ill-health on the part of general officers than from any others. Every possible sanitary precaution will be taken to insure the health of the command. Provisions and medical stores abound. The men are now having a good rest, and will be completely refitted in a day or two.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 11, 1862.

HILL CARTER, Esq., *Shirley:*

MY DEAR SIR: Your letter of yesterday is received. Allow me to express my thanks to you for the humane and Christian conduct you and your family have displayed toward my helpless sick and wounded. My attention had already been called to this subject. Without pausing to inquire or desiring to learn whether you are friend or foe to the cause I have the honor to serve, it was my intention to do all in my power to alleviate in your case the sufferings caused by the inevitable exigencies of this unhappy war.

Permit me here to state that it ever has been, and ever shall be, my constant effort to confine the effects of this contest to the armed masses and political organization directly concerned in carrying it on.

I have done my best to secure protection to private property, but I confess that circumstances beyond my control have often defeated my purposes.

I have not come here to wage war upon the defenseless, upon non-combatants, upon private property, nor upon the domestic institutions of the land. I and the army I command are fighting to secure the Union and maintain its Constitution and laws, and for no other purpose. I regret to learn you have suffered, and the inconvenience you have endured.

I send this by a confidential officer of my staff, who is instructed to ascertain from you what kind of a safeguard will best secure your person and property, how I can best indemnify you for your losses, and in what manner the other requests you make can best be carried out.

Again expressing my thanks for the noble spirit of humanity you have shown toward men whom you probably regard as bitter foes, I am, sir, with the highest respect, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 139. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., July* 11, '62.

I. No one will be sent to the hospital camp or floating hospitals except on the approval of the medical director and the commander of the corps to which he belongs, which approval will be given in no case where the men can be treated in their regiments. Men not serving in corps, divisions, or brigades must have the approval of the medical director of the army.

II. No person will be allowed to leave on the sick transports except

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on the certificate of the senior reserve surgeon of the division (approved by the proper military authority), stating that he has personally examined the case, and that leaving the army is necessary to save life or prevent permanent disability. A similar certificate will be required of the senior surgeon of the hospital camp, approved by the commanding officer and the medical director of this army, before any one from that camp will be allowed to leave on any vessel used as a transport for the sick.

III. The medical director of each corps will detail daily an officer from the reserve corps of surgeons of each division, whose duty it will be minutely to inspect the police and sanitary condition of the division.

At the expiration of his tour of duty this officer will report in writing to the medical director of the corps the state of the police of each regiment, and whether the orders in regard thereto have been carried into effect. He will also report upon the sanitary condition of the division; the manner in which the regimental hospitals are conducted; the manner in which the officers perform their duties in regard to the care and attention of the sick and wounded, and in regard to supplies. He will make such suggestions as in his opinion the interest of the service may require for promoting the health and efficiency of the troops.

IV. Medical directors of corps will at once report to their commanders any violation of the orders in reference to police in any portion of their commands, and will make to the medical director of the army a weekly report, condensed from the weekly reports received by them, of the police and sanitary condition of the corps, with such observations as the case may seem to demand. Commanders of corps will afford every facility to medical officers in the performance of these duties.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley, July 12, 1862.

Brig. Gen. LORENZO THOMAS, *Adjutant-General U. S. Army:*

GENERAL: The last information received from the cavalry scouts shows that the divisions [of] Longstreet and Hill did cross the Chickahominy at Long Bridge in their retreat. I have not yet ascertained the direction they afterward took, but hope to learn in a few hours. The country along the Lower Chickahominy is entirely free from the presence of the enemy.

There is nothing new of any interest to add, except that every hour convinces me of the great result which could be gained now by the army were it promptly re-enforced even to a moderate extent.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, July 12, 1862.

Col. R. INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster Army of the Potomac, Harrison's Bar:

COLONEL: Your dispatches of the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th* are re-

* Requisitions for supplies.

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ceived by me to-day. They have been so far as possible attended to in my absence. I returned last night. The sudden flood of volunteers has overworked all our depots and exhausted some of our articles of supply. I fear disappointment in your supply of canteens, which were ordered, when first required, in July.

All schooners fit for your purpose in Baltimore and Philadelphia have been ordered to Fort Monroe, and Colonel Tompkins was ordered to send to that place from New York two hundred sails, if he can get them, all in ballast. I have written to General McClellan on this subject.* The sacrifice of deck loads of hay would give you much room on the very large fleet of supply vessels at Fort Monroe and in the James River. The thirty steamers which you had at Harrison's Bar, with many since sent to Fort Monroe and the James River, ought to move over 30,000 men on their own decks. In addition to this, all of General Burnside's transportation has been sent back to you. He moved at one trip some 12,000 men. Wagons, horses, artillery can be shipped after the greater part of the men are moved. Orders have been sent to Philadelphia and New York to hasten back immediately all sick transports, which have sometimes been delayed by those in charge of them.

You now have all the steamboats of the coast which can be procured without breaking up the great ferries and routes by which our new levies are to be brought to the seat of war, excepting the few employed in supplying the Southern posts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, July 12, 1862.

SIR: The general commanding directs that you cause your command to be prepared to resume active operations at the earliest possible moment.

You will please ascertain, by personal inspection, in what respects the equipment of your troops is deficient, and take immediate measures to complete it, reporting from day to day the progress made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BERKELEY, *July* 13, 1862—8 a. m.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
President of the United States:

I have nothing of special interest to report to-day. Enemy still at Haxall's; too strong for cavalry scouts to drive back, but not in any large force. A few rifle-shots fired from Fort Powhatan yesterday. Enemy has a rear guard in some little force on Long Bridge road, 8 miles from here. Our cavalry is active and constantly pressing him. We have ample supplies of provisions.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
[*Major-General,*] *Commanding.*

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* Letter not found.

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EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, July 13, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

MY DEAR SIR: I am told that over 160,000 men have gone into your army on the Peninsula. When I was with you the other day we made out 86,500 remaining, leaving 73,500 to be accounted for. I believe 23,500 will cover all the killed, wounded, and missing in all your battles and skirmishes, leaving 50,000 who have left otherwise. Not more than 5,000 of these have died, leaving 45,000 of your army still alive and not with it. I believe half or two-thirds of them are fit for duty to-day. Have you any more perfect knowledge of this than I have? If I am right, and you had these men with you, you could go into Richmond in the next three days. How can they be got to you, and how can they be prevented from getting away in such numbers for the future?

A. LINCOLN.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST CAVALRY BRIGADE,
Westover, July 13, 1862.

Capt. A. J. ALEXANDER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that yesterday morning Lieutenant-Colonel Owen went with three squadrons of cavalry toward Long Bridge for the purpose of ascertaining if the enemy had crossed the Chickahominy at that point.

He met the enemy in considerable force at Saint Mary's Church, 8 miles beyond our pickets, on the Long Bridge road. He attacked and drove these pickets back to their infantry support, but could push them no farther.

Captain White, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, was sent to cross the Chickahominy at Jones' Bridge and communicate with the pickets of Colonel Campbell, in New Kent County.

A squadron of the Fourth Pennsylvania was sent last night to Charles City Court-House to occupy and hold the road leading from that point to Long Bridge, in order to cover the movements of Captain White. In the operations of yesterday there was some skirmishing at Saint Mary's Church, in which some of the enemy were believed to have been killed and wounded. Three prisoners were taken; two of them were sent to the provost-marshal-general, but the other was taken from the men who were bringing him to me by Brig. Gen. W. F. Smith. An ignorant contraband on his way to Richmond from New Kent was also taken and sent up.

Later.—I have just received a dispatch from Captain White at Jones' Ford: "No trace of the enemy there now; no troops at Providence (Barton's) Ford since Thursday."

I shall hear from him again to-night. As soon as I have the maps corrected for the country in the direction of Long Bridge I will send up a sketch.

Four companies Fifth U. S. Cavalry are out with Brigadier-General Barnard, engineer, on the Charles City road.

There are all together fourteen companies out from this brigade at the present time, as follows, viz: Eight on Long Bridge road, two over

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the Chickahominy, four with engineer, and one company with cattle herd.

Respectfully,

WM. W. AVERELL,
Colonel, Commanding.

U. S. GUNBOAT GALENA,
James River, July 13, 1862.

Major MYER,
Signal Officer, U. S. Army:

SIR: I beg leave to express my opinion of the value of the mode of signaling invented by yourself and used in the Army. It can be seen when the Navy signals cannot, by reason of calm weather, be distinguished; in misty weather it can be read farther, as the motions of the flag are more visible than mere differences of color.

On the 30th of June and 1st of July, when we were required to cover the flanks of the army by firing upon an unseen enemy, your signals served to direct the fire, and the signals being given with the utmost precision, I hope our fire was thereby made useful.

Your method is no new thing with me, since I saw it used in Georgia, between Freeborn Cut and Wright River, across the Savannah River, at a distance which astonished me, and where Navy signals could not have been seen. For the Navy I think your code invaluable.

I take the liberty of adding that your signal officers on board, Lieutenants Clum and Ellis, have been attentive, skillful, willing, and very pleasant shipmates.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN RODGERS,
Commander.

BERKELEY, *July* 14, 1862—7.30 a. m.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

Nothing new of interest. Position of enemy's rear guard unchanged; varies from 6 to 8 miles from us. Health of troops improving somewhat. Food, forage, and medical supplies abundant. Will get quite a large number of our sick and well from the enemy to-day. Have informed General Lee that we are ready to negotiate a general exchange, and asked him to appoint some one to meet General Dix.

Everything going on very well. I am very anxious to have my old regiments filled up rather than have new ones formed. What of Burnside?

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
[*Major-General, Commanding.*]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, July 14, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN:

General Burnside's force is at Newport News, ready to move, on short notice, one way or the other, when ordered.

A. LINCOLN.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, July 14, 1862.

His Excellency ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

Our cavalry pickets communicated yesterday with the pickets of Colonel Campbell near New Kent Court-House, crossing the Chickahominy.

We thus had a communication between Williamsburg and here. No considerable force of the enemy was found, and it does not seem that he is making any demonstration on Yorktown or Williamsburg.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
[*Major-General, Commanding.*]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
July 14, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK, *Corinth, Miss.:*

I am very anxious—almost impatient—to have you here. Have due regard to what you leave behind. When can you reach here?

A. LINCOLN.

CORINTH, MISS.,
July 15, 1862—10.40 a. m.

The PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

General Grant has just arrived from Memphis. I am in communication with General Buell and Governor Johnson in Tennessee. Hope to finally arrange disposition of troops, and to re-enforce Curtis by to-morrow, and to leave Thursday morning, the 17th.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 15, 1862. (Received 8 p. m.)

His Excellency ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

Your telegram of yesterday [July 13] has been received. The difference between the effective force of troops and that expressed in returns is considerable in every army. All commanders find the actual strength less than the strength represented on paper. I have not my own returns for the tri-monthly period since arriving at Fort Monroe at hand at this moment, but even on paper I will not, I am confident, be found to have received 160,000 officers and men present, although present and absent my returns will be accountable for that number. You can arrive at the number of absentees, however, better by my return of July 10, which will be ready to send shortly. I find from official reports that I have present for duty: Officers, 3,215; enlisted men, 85,450; in all present for duty, 88,665; absent by authority, 34,472; without authority, 3,778; present and absent, 144,407.

The number of officers and men present sick is 16,619. The medical director will fully explain the causes of this amount of sickness, which I hope will begin to decrease shortly. Thus the number of men really absent is 38,250. Unquestionably of the number present some are absent—say 40,000 will cover the absentees. I quite agree with you that

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more than one-half these men are probably fit for duty to-day. I have frequently called the attention lately of the War Department to the evil of absenteeism. I think that the exciting of the public press to persistent attack upon officers and soldiers absent from the army, the employment of deputy marshals to arrest and send back deserters, summary dismissal of officers whose names are reported for being absent without leave, and the publication of their names, will exhaust the remedies applicable by the War Department.

It is to be remembered that many of those absent by authority are those who have got off either sick or wounded or under pretense of sickness or wounds, and having orginally pretext of authority are still reported absent by authority. If I could receive back the absentees and could get my sick men up I would need but small re-enforcements to enable me to take Richmond. After the battle of Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, &c., most of these men got off. Well men got on board hospital boats taking care of sick, &c. There is always confusion and haste in shipping and taking care of wounded after a battle. There is no time for nice examination of permits to pass here or there.

I can now control people getting away better, for the natural opportunities are better. Leakages by desertion occur in every army and will occur here of course, but I do not at all however anticipate anything like a recurrence of what has taken place.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *July* 15, 1862—3.45 p. m.

C. P. WOLCOTT,
Assistant Secretary of War:

General Stevens has arrived. Four of his regiments are here. His division, of six regiments, has about 4,000 men. General Wright is coming with four regiments. General Stevens says General Hunter intends to send 8,000 or 9,000 men.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
July 15, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. DIX:

Let General Hunter's troops be disembarked and placed under command of General Burnside until further order. What number are coming?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
July 15, 1862.

Major-General DIX, *Fort Monroe:*

The transports that bring General Hunter's troops to Fort Monroe should remain there until further order, unless some necessity requires them to go elsewhere.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley, July 15, 1862.

His Excellency Gov. E. D. MORGAN:

GOVERNOR: I am sure that in the present emergency you will pardon me for venturing upon a few suggestions as to the most useful manner of increasing the strength of this army.

The greatest benefit that can be conferred upon it would be to fill to the maximum the old regiments, which have so nobly sustained the honor of the Union and their State.

I would prefer 50,000 recruits for my old regiments to 100,000 men organized in new regiments, and I cannot too earnestly urge the imperative necessity of following this system.

By far the best arrangement would be to fill up all the old companies. If that cannot be done, the next best thing is to consolidate the old companies and add new ones to each regiment. We have here the material for making excellent officers in the regiments. The men tried and proven in many hard-fought battles are infinitely to be preferred to any new appointments. More than that, they have won their promotion. Policy and gratitude alike demand that their claims should be recognized.

With the old regiments thus filled up the whole army would in a very few weeks be ready for any service. New regiments would require several months to fit them for service, and they would be brought into action with untried and in many cases unfit officers.

Again, I would earnestly impress upon you the great mistake of bringing men into the field for a less period than three years or the war. The contact of such troops with those enlisted for three years would soon breed dissatisfaction among the latter, while the term of service of the former would expire about the time they became valuable to the service. I would also urge the propriety—necessity rather—of sending recruits to the regiments as rapidly as enlisted. They will become soldiers here in one-tenth of the time they could in the home depots, and would have all the advantages of contact with the veterans who now compose this Army.

I have also to ask your attention to the many officers and men who are now in the North on sick leave, &c. Many thousands of these are fit for duty, and should at once be made to join their regiments. May I ask the earnest efforts of Your Excellency to secure this very important end? I would also request that no officer who has resigned from this army be commissioned in another regiment unless furnished with a special recommendation to that effect from the commander of his division or army corps. I regret to say that many officers have resigned to avoid the consequence of cowardly conduct, inefficiency, &c. It is a melancholy fact that, while many noble exceptions are to be found, the officers of volunteers are, as a mass—perhaps I should say were (for the worst are sifted out)—greatly inferior to the men they command.

Trusting that you will pardon me for the liberty I have taken in making these suggestions, and that you will be good enough to give them your careful consideration, I have the honor to be, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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BERKELEY, VA., *July* 16, 1862—7 a. m.
(Received 1.20 p. m.)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, *President:*

None of the enemy retired by the Long Bridge; all have gone in direction of Richmond. Their pickets are strong, ranging about 7 miles from this place. What news has General Pope from his front? I would be glad to be kept informed by him.

Generals Dix and Hill are to meet on Thursday at Haxall's to arrange general exchange of prisoners. I hope to see Burnside to-day and arrange with him. Will telegraph you fully when I have conferred with him.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 16, 1862.

Col. D. B. SACKET,
Inspector-General:

COLONEL: It is the desire of the major-general commanding that the operations of the inspector-general's department in connection with this army should be materially extended, to the end that the army may profit by the fullest capability of the department for usefulness and result.

The sphere of that department is, in the view of the commanding general, a very wide and important one. Through it the general sees the interior of the army; he learns its efficiency, its discipline, its capability for its task, its feeling, its tone; through it he becomes acquainted with his troops—he knows the *personnel* of his army. Nor is the field for investigation limited here. Everything that concerns an army, whether as respects its interior organization, discipline, and efficiency, or its relation to the special or general military purposes in view, every branch of service, every character of duty, in fine, is within the range of subjects of the department.

It is obvious that casual inspections of troops upon special orders to that effect will in nowise render an inspector-general intimately acquainted with an army. Frequent visits among the troops, daily inspections, the constant observation of military persons and objects, and, from various points of view, the cultivation of a habit of inquiry, in fine, with regard to all subjects of military concern pertaining to the army, will alone enable an officer of the department to be up to the level of the requirements of his place.

I am directed by the commanding general to communicate to you the foregoing, confident that you will share his views with regard to the greater usefulness indicated herein for your department.

He is not insensible to the value of your services and those of Major Davis to this army, and he trusts that you will not see in these instructions any indication of discontent with the manner in which you have discharged your duties. The preparation of the army to resume the offensive at an early day, however, demands renewed exertions on the part of all the staff departments, and requires the utmost result that each department is capable of producing.

It is this necessity which has drawn forth these instructions. It is desired that hereafter on every day inspections be made of some branch

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of the service or body of troops connected with this army. Aides-de-camp of the general's staff will, as you may require their services, report to you for inspection duty.

The discipline, instruction, equipment, health, and comfort of the troops, the character of the supplies furnished the troops, their quantity and quality, the police and healthfulness of camps are subjects which are naturally indicated as those to receive primary attention. Other subjects in their order. The simple detection of deficiencies, whether in description or equipment in the inspection of troops, I am to add, is not enough to accomplish any desirable purpose.

The opportunity afforded for communicating instructions or for directing a remedy should be improved. Clothed with the authority of the commanding general you can remedy much on the spot.

It is anticipated that this authority will of course be used prudently and wisely, but *ex officio* you can direct the execution of existing regulations or orders, the supply of deficient equipments, or require the enforcement of police and sanitary measures, &c.

Full written reports are not expected except in special cases or where objects require special mention to insure necessary action. Verbal reports to the chief of staff will in the general case answer every purpose.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. V. COLBURN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 205. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., July* 16, 1862.

* * * * * * *

XV. Brig. Gen. Daniel E. Sickles will proceed to New York for the purpose of pushing forward recruiting for the regiments of his brigade. He will send on the recruits in squads as they are collected, calling upon the Quartermaster's Department for the necessary transportation. The general commanding relies upon General Sickles to use his utmost exertions to hasten the filling up of his regiments and to rejoin his command at the earliest possible moment.

XVI. Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Meagher will proceed on the recruiting service for the regiments of his brigade under the special instructions of General Sumner. He will send on the recruits in squads as they are collected, calling upon the Quartermaster's Department for the necessary transportation. The general commanding relies upon General Meagher to use his utmost exertions to hasten the filling up of his regiments, and to rejoin his command at the earliest possible moment.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *July* 17, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN, *Berkeley:*

There is no enemy in my front. My cavalry pickets extend 25 miles south of Fredericksburg, and Hatch, with 2,500 men, passes through Gordonsville to-day *en route* for Charlottesville. He will destroy the

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Virginia Central road and the road from Charlottesville to Lynchburg. If it be possible he will push cavalry in several directions to James River and destroy the canal. Culpeper is occupied by a considerable force, with Banks, Sigel, and one division of McDowell in supporting distance.

JNO POPE,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *July* 18, 1862—1 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have just returned from General McClellan's headquarters, and have much to say to you. Wish you to hear it before any very important changes are made. Can I telegraph you freely or can I go to Washington for a day? I think it important that we should consult. I think no man knows McClellan's present position better than myself.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *July* 18, 1862—5 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I did not doubt the security in telegraphing by cipher, but simply questioned the expediency of telegraphing freely in reference to persons and events. If I can get off I will avail myself of your confidence and go up to see you to-morrow. If not, I will telegraph fully.

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General.

HARRISON'S LANDING, VA.,
July 18, 1862.

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I was much gratified to receive your letter of the 13th, and trust you will always give me the benefit of what suggestions you may think fit to offer.

I had already stopped all the transportation (horses, mules, and wagons) afloat at the fortress, where it now remains subject to my orders. Many of the horse teams were broken up to fill up the batteries; meantime some good artillery horses were sent from Philadelphia. So far as I can learn the batteries have received horses, as many as were required, on demand. I still have for issue some 200 fit for artillery and cavalry service. We have too much cavalry for any real advantage to us.

Many were of opinion that we had too much land transportation, but it was generally supposed we had a far greater number of wagons than an actual inspection shows we have. We have here now about 2,600 wagons for service with troops, engineer and supply trains; each regiment is allowed six. There are some 106,000 men in this army present,

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and Burnside is expected to re-enforce it with thirty regiments. The operations may require the use of considerable land carriage. I do not think we have too much. As the matter stands now, the amount can easily and quickly be augmented or reduced, as circumstances may render necessary. There will be no trouble if they are kept in the proper condition and place in encampments and on marches. They gave infinite cause for anxiety and embarrassment in the last week of June. It is a miracle so few were lost. The spectacle at times of entangled wagons with batteries and troops was frightful, though we reached here in good order and spirits.

The army is a magnificent one to-day. All we require now is more men and generals full of health and desire to go into Richmond. We must and soon can go forward. This army must not go back one foot. The commanding general is in excellent health and full of confidence, and is the "pride and boast" of his men.

The Peninsula is sickly here, as it was at White House. White laborers cannot stand the climate; we have but few; we depend on contrabands chiefly. I have invariably made use of all fair means to increase the number. I brought away every man, woman, and child from the Pamunkey; that is, they took passage on our boats. I am sending along this river to Norfolk, even to North Carolina, for colored laborers. Where the army actually is the negroes come in to a man almost. I hope next week to have the numbers much increased.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

RUFUS INGALLS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp, Chief Quartermaster.

BERKELEY, *July* 19, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Some time since I found it necessary to institute the Fifth and Sixth Provisional Army Corps.

I now apply that these provisional corps be made full corps by the President. Their commanders are among the ablest generals in the service. I also recommend that General Dix's command in this department be constituted an army corps. I desire to invest that able and excellent officer with all the power I can within my department, and it will be for the good of the service.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *July* 19, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN, *Berkeley:*

I have not yet heard from Hatch, and presume he has not yet met with any considerable resistance.

There are reports in Fredericksburg and from Culpeper that Jackson is moving on Gordonsville with a large force. It is not confirmed as yet by any authority.

I will keep you advised.

JNO. POPE,
Major-General.

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BERKELEY, VA., *July* 19, 1862—8 p. m.

Major-General POPE,
Commanding Army of Virginia:

Dispatch of 17th received. The enemy not within 10 miles of me in large force. Has fallen back to vicinity of Richmond and Petersburg. I cannot yet tell whether he has any designs upon you or not.

Mansfield sends word from Suffolk that rebels are sending negroes to Lynchburg to work on fortifications.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERKELEY, VA., *July* 20, 1862—8 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Intimations come from various sources—from our returned wounded and prisoners—that a portion of the enemy's force has moved in the direction of Gordonsville. Although Lynchburg and Chattanooga is the probable direction, it will be well for General Pope to keep a sharp lookout toward Staunton and Gordonsville. In conversation the rebels boast of going to Baltimore, &c. Our information begins to be more full.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., July 20, 1862—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN:

Your two telegrams of yesterday and one of this morning have been received.

The organization of your Fifth and Sixth Army Corps and the organization of the forces of General Dix into a corps will be confirmed by an order of the Department. General Dix arrived here last evening and returned to-day, having come for instructions in relation to exchange of prisoners. I would be glad to have immediately a list of the wounded received from Richmond. We have no military intelligence of interest from any quarter.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley, Va., July 20, 1862—1.30 p. m. (Rec'd 9.30 p. m.)

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,
President of the United States:

I have again heard from return prisoners that Jackson's troops commenced leaving Richmond about one week ago by rail, either toward Gordonsville or Fredericksburg, and that the movement continued for some three days, by night and day. This comes through so many sources that I feel obliged to call your close attention to it. I also learn that large numbers of conscripts are constantly arriving in Richmond from the South.

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My cavalry scouts are to-day amusing themselves with the enemy at Malvern Hill. Jackson's movements may be against Buell. The fact of his taking the Gordonsville route would in that case be accounted for by the necessity of their keeping the Petersburg and Danville roads free for the transit of wounded, recruits, and supplies. In any event I try to urge concentration of the masses of troops in front of Washington and the sending of cavalry far to the front. If I am to have Burnside's troops, I would be glad to avail myself of at least a portion of them to occupy a point on south bank of James River. Health of the command improving a little. I should be glad to hear daily from Pope's outpost. It is important that I should do so.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA,
Washington, July 20, 1862.

Major-General McCLELLAN, *Berkeley:*

Ewell is at Gordonsville with about 6,000 men. Jackson reported to be at Louisa Court-House with 25,000.

My advance posts are at Culpeper and Madison Court-House. It is certain that a considerable force of the enemy is along Virginia Central Railroad west of Hanover Junction.

JNO. POPE,
Major-General.

Number of men composing the Army of the Potomac on the 20th day of July, 1862.

	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate on special duty, sick, and in arrest.	Aggregate absent.	Total aggregate present and absent.
General McClellan and staff, U. S. Engineers, Engineer Brigade, cavalry division, escort to headquarters, provost guard, First Connecticut Artillery, chief quartermaster.	8,735	1,448	2,157	12,340
Second Corps (General Sumner's)	16,952	2,866	5,665	25,483
Third Corps (General Heintzelman's)	16,276	3,180	7,080	26,536
Fourth Corps (General Keyes')	14,490	2,627	8,756	25,873
Fifth Provisional Corps (General Porter's)	21,077	3,900	8,962	33,939
Sixth Provisional Corps (General Franklin's)	14,014	2,749	5,407	22,170
Seventh Corps (General Dix's)	9,997	1,042	739	11,778
U. S. Signal Corps	150	16	29	195
Grand aggregate	101,691	17,828	38,795	158,314

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., December 31, 1862.

It is hereby certified that the preceding statement is accurately compiled from the morning report of the Army of the Potomac of the 20th day of July, 1862, signed by Major-General McClellan and his assistant adjutant-general, Seth Williams, and now on file in this office.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, D. C., July 21, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

This is Monday. I hope to be able to tell you on Thursday what is to be done with Burnside.

A. LINCOLN.

BERKELEY, VA., *July 21, 1862—9 a. m.*

Major-General POPE,
Commanding Army of Virginia:

Your dispatch of 19th [20th?] received. The information in regard to Jackson's movement on Gordonsville reaches me through so many sources that I think it worthy of your closest attention.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA,
Washington, D. C., July 21, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN:

The subjoined report I have just made to the Secretary of War.

JNO. POPE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA,
Washington, July 21, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: The cavalry expedition I directed General King to send out on the 19th has returned. They left Fredericksburg at 7 p. m. on the 19th, and, after a forced march during the night, made a descent at daylight in the morning upon the Virginia Central Railroad at Beaver Dam Creek, 25 miles west of Hanover Junction and 35 miles from Richmond. They destroyed the railroad and telegraph line for several miles, burned up the depot, which contained 40,000 rounds of musket ammunition, 100 barrels of flour, and much other valuable property, and brought in a captain in charge prisoner. The whole country around was thrown in a great state of alarm. One private was wounded on our side. The cavalry marched 80 miles in thirty hours. The affair was most successful, and reflects high credit upon the commanding officer and his troops. As soon as full particulars are received I will transmit to you the name of the commanding officer and the troops engaged.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. POPE,
Major-General, Commanding.

BALTIMORE, *July 21, 1862.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

MY DEAR FRIEND: I hope you will allow me to consider you as such. "Coming events cast their shadows before them." The rebels are not without well-founded hopes that England and France will interfere in their behalf. The late disaster to our arms at Richmond and the position of Major-General McClellan's army will aid them much in their anticipations. The rebels will do all in their power to keep McClellan where he is with his army, in the hope that death and desertion will

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so thin his ranks that by fall his army will be reduced one-half. Altogether our position is far from being an agreeable one. We ought to be up and doing. We want troops, and must have them. Measures ought to be adopted to apprehend and send back to their regiments the thousands of deserters scattered throughout the country. These with the men on furlough would make a respectable army.

It is said that the rebels would willingly exchange Richmond for Washington. Our generals have not shown much tact in acquiring information in regard to the movements of the rebel armies. The latter disappear from before them with all the material of war without knowing it for days, as was the case at Manassas, Yorktown, and Corinth. They have been too often assailed by large forces without the slightest knowledge of their approach, and of course disaster follows, as in the case of Generals Grant, Shields, and Banks. Our generals do not appear to understand the stratagems of war, and they leave their rear and depots of supplies unprotected and unguarded, as in the case of McClellan's rear being attacked, when he lost much property, as also in the case when Jackson returned to Richmond. We find them too often surprised, as in the case of Fair Oaks and Grant near Corinth, and but for the timely arrival of gunboats the army of the latter would have been captured.

I do not mention these things because I desire the command of an army. Far from it. I assure you I am content to perform any duty you may think proper to assign to me. My only wish and desire is to put down this infamous rebellion, and to have the instigators punished as they deserve to be. Whoever may accomplish this, and whether it be McClellan, Halleck, Pope, or any one else, I will be at least one of the first to rejoice and to do honor to the conqueror.

In conclusion, allow me to call your attention to the bounty about to be paid to those who may enlist in the service. I believe it will amount to something like $90 to each man, including $50 by the States. New York gives $50 in addition to what the United States gives. In drawing up your instructions for myself, I hope you will allow the $50 to be given by New York.

Always and faithfully, yours,

JOHN E. WOOL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Harrison's Bar, July 21, 1862.

Brig. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army:

MY DEAR GENERAL: In times of crises I always think of corresponding with you. I do not know the amount of your influence at this time, but whether you possess much or little, you ought now to exert all you possess to guard the state from the dangers that threaten it.

You and I agreed in March and April, 1861, that it was proper to make war vigorously. We agreed after the battle of Bull Run that the capital and the North were in danger, and I doubt not you will agree with me that both are in far greater danger now than at that time. The South has been made a unit by the mere continuance of the war, and their antipathies have been increased by our legislation, while the North has been made weak by divided counsels and an ignorance on the part of most persons of the cause of the war.

This army has lost golden opportunities. If I could see you I would

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tell you how we lost them; but, being lost, repining will do no good, and we must endeavor to avoid the ruin which now threatens us.

I will tell you some things which you may regard as facts: My corps has taken prisoners or contrabands from the enemy as many as half the number of days in the last three months. I have not failed with eye and voice to make searching examinations of all, and I am convinced that the officers and men of the Southern army are at this moment much more vigorous in health and more able for that reason to march and to fight than our army is.

The South is not deficient in plain food in abundance. It is my opinion that their grain on hand and growing is enough for two years' supply. To think of starving them out is simply absurd unless we can destroy their rail and water lines of communication, when their armies would starve simply on account of the badness of the Virginia roads in wet weather.

This army is able to hold its present position, but cannot assume the offensive without a re-enforcement of at least 100,000 men. That is the least number any man will estimate whose opinion is worth more than a dream.

The newspapers will tell you that the health of this army is improving. It is only apparently improving. Comparative rest has produced a seeming improvement during the last three weeks. I speak from no hearsay nor from any man's theory; I go every day and inspect several regiments. If any other officers do this I do not know their names. I find that a majority of the generals are beginning to droop. I find the men are becoming weaker by the day—their minds and bodies are growing weak together—and, though I despise most theories, I will say that to pen up more than 100,000 men and animals in a space so small that you can find no point of that space which is one mile distant from its outside boundary on the James River in the months of July, August, and September is to secure disease, weakness, and nostalgia as a certain crop.

Our enemies are not fools, and they will soon find means to shut up the James River below us or make its navigation enormously expensive to us. They will find the means also to annoy us in other ways, and unless we receive vast re-enforcements they will succeed in ruining this whole army, and this army lost, the North is necessarily from that moment at the mercy of the South.

Some persons affirm that it will have a bad moral effect or a bad political effect to withdraw this army, but will the effect be worse than to remain here and do nothing? We can neither operate against the enemy nor build up our own army on this spot. Then why do we stay here?

The South has already put forth all its strength and will continue to do so. We have not, and we must bide our time and employ our means to the best advantage.

Do you fear intervention? It will not be less to be feared if we have an army where it can be employed than to have one where it cannot be employed.

Do you fear cost? It will cost just as much (and more if you estimate for sickness) to maintain the army and build it up here as it would to carry it away to a healthy district and build it up to return the whole to the James River next October.

If the movement begins to-morrow or the next day, or even one week hence, I think this army could be removed in safety; after that its removal would be of doubtful possibility. If, therefore, you value the

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safety of this country do one of two things without delay, remove this army or send to it a re-enforcement of 100,000 men.

If this army should be taken to some place between the enemy and our own possessions, we might allege health as a motive for the movement, bid defiance to the South, and by and by to England and France also, but by remaining here in our present condition we submit to chance the very ark of our safety.

Please let me hear from you.

Your friend,

E. D. KEYES.

P. S.—I have kept the foregoing two days to determine whether or not I should change my opinion and retain it. I have concluded, however, to send it; the sickliness of this country in August and September being one of the strongest reasons for withdrawing.

[Indorsement.]

JULY 28, 1862.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Halleck.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 84. } WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE, *Washington, July* 22, 1862.

The designation in General Orders, No. 125, from the Headquarters Army of the Potomac, of the forces commanded by Brigadier-Generals Porter and Franklin as the Fifth and Sixth Army Corps is hereby confirmed.

The forces under Major-General Dix will constitute the Seventh; those under Major-General Wool the Eighth; and those under Major-General Burnside, belonging to the Department of North Carolina, the Ninth Army Corps, respectively.

By order of the Secretary of War:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 23, 1862—7.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. JOHN POPE:

I congratulate you heartily on success of the cavalry expedition. Nothing new of interest here.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley, July 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Commanding U. S. Army:

GENERAL: I have seen to-day nearly a thousand of our sick and wounded just returned from Richmond. Some refugees have also arrived and a number of surgeons and chaplains taken prisoners at Bull

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Run. All of these who have enjoyed any opportunities of observation unite in stating that re-enforcements are pouring into Richmond from the South.

Dr. L. H. Stone, U. S. Army, saw at Charlotte from 7,000 to 8,000 troops *en route* to Richmond. He and others unite in stating that it is quite positive that the troops on James Island (Charlotte) have arrived in Richmond and that the Southern States are being drained of their garrisons to re-enforce the army in my front. It is said that the troops of Beauregard's old army are also *en route* hither. This last is not positive, and I hope to learn the truth in regard to it to-morrow.

Three regiments—one South Carolina, one North Carolina, and one Georgia—reached Richmond yesterday. Supplies are being rapidly pushed in by all routes. It would appear that Longstreet is in front of Richmond on this side of the James; D. H. Hill at Fort Darling and vicinity.

Our cavalry pickets on Charles City road were driven in to-day by a heavy force of cavalry and some artillery. Averell started after them with a sufficient force. I have not yet heard the result.

Allow me to urge most strongly that all the troops of Burnside and Hunter, together with all that can possibly be spared from other points, be sent to me at once. I am sure that you will agree with me that the true defense of Washington consists in a rapid and heavy blow given by this army upon Richmond.

Can you not possibly draw 15,000 or 20,000 men from the West to re-enforce me temporarily? They can return the moment we gain Richmond. Please give weight to this suggestion; I am sure it merits it.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
IN CAMP AT HARRISON'S LANDING, JAMES RIVER,
Saturday, July 26, 1862.

Hon. W. H. SEWARD.
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.:

DEAR SIR: Confirmatory information has just been received here that about ten days or two weeks ago Jackson started toward the valley, via the Fredericksburg Railroad (from Richmond), with 60,000 to 80,000 troops, including his own and Ewell's division, Lawton's brigade, and from 3,000 to 4,000 cavalry. Pope has no doubt pretty well ascertained his position and numbers by this time. McClellan ought to be instructed to keep a very heavy pressure on the lines between here and Richmond, so as to detect any depletion of the forces there to re-enforce Jackson for an annihilation of Pope and a raid upon Washington. That has been one great fault of our generals. They have not kept a heavy enough pressure upon the lines to detect the depletion and evacuations of the enemy in time to take proper advantage of them. That was the case at Manassas and Yorktown. We were kept at bay by a mere feint of force until the main forces were out of reach of a harassing pursuit. So it was when Jackson turned our right wing the other day. If a heavy pressure had been kept upon him from the Potomac he would either have had to remain where he was or been followed up by a sufficient force to keep him from doing any harm.

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However, McClellan has played the same game on the enemy in our late retreat. By keeping up a show of force in our fortifications he enabled our main forces to get under good headway for the new base of operations before being seriously molested. General Huger has since been relieved of his command in the field, it is reported, for allowing McClellan to get twelve hours the start of him.

I hope that McClellan will be instructed to keep a very heavy and threatening pressure upon Richmond, so as to prevent any considerable re-enforcement of Jackson from that quarter. He can do this without any risk. He has his gunboats and fortifications to fall back upon in case of meeting with too heavy a pressure himself, and in such a case would have the choice of his ground to punish the enemy as he did before. Besides, an advance of McClellan to within striking distance of Richmond again would have an immense moral effect at the North in the way of recruiting, &c., and throughout the world, showing that he was not much hurt after all. The advantages of such an advance immediately would be incalculable and would be well worth a considerable effort, while it could be made about as well as not, as far, at any rate, as would be necessary for the desired moral effect. Once restored to within striking distance of Richmond, our prestige would again be restored almost to its former standard.

Another very valuable piece of information has just been received here from a reliable source. It is to the effect that a second Merrimac, more formidable than the first, has just been completed at Richmond, and is daily expected by the citizens there to come out and clear James River. This vessel, it seems, was commenced at Norfolk before the evacuation of that place, and on the evacuation it was taken with other craft to Richmond. She is said to be of smaller dimensions and much lighter draught than the old Merrimac, but similar to her in construction and much more formidable, combining as she does all the improvements suggested by experience. Her armament is said to consist of eight guns of the most formidable construction that can be made in the Confederacy, while it is reported that a secret channel is open for her through the blockade, which can be closed at pleasure after she is out and under the protection of the guns of Fort Darling. She is described as having eight guns—one in the bow, one in the stern, and three on each side. A peculiar kind of shot have been cast expressly for her at the Tredegar Iron Works at Richmond, and, as I have said, it is daily expected by the most knowing citizens there to come out and clear James River.

This information is brought by a very intelligent Irishman, thirty-four years of age, a printer by trade, who has been at work on the Examiner and Enquirer at Richmond since the last of March last, and has had all the facilities and privileges of his craft for acquiring information. He has just come within our lines with his family, consisting of a wife and three children, under a flag of truce, as a British subject. He has been aboard of the Merrimac No. 2 since the completion of her wood work, before she was taken across to the Manchester side of the river to be iron clad, and describes her as a very formidable craft, with a most monstrous prow. I have no doubt, from what he says, but that we are destined to soon be annoyed by Merrimac No. 2 on James River the same as we were in the spring on Hampton Roads by Merrimac No. 1. We may rest assured that the rebels will spare no means in their power to annoy and damage us and annihilate this James River campaign. They have had the means and the power to build one Merrimac and to experience her value, and I see no reason to doubt that

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with all the benefits of their experience they have essayed another. They are aware that she can rest secure under the guns of Fort Darling and sally out to commit her depredations at pleasure. It is not unlikely, either, that she can be worked through a channel in the blockade, under the protection of the guard of Fort Darling, that it would not be practicable for our gunboats to find out under their fire. I think that the evidence of an intention on the part of the rebels to bring out a second Merrimac is sufficient at least to prompt us to be prepared for any emergency of the kind. The possibility, probability, plausibility, and direct evidence are all in favor of such a case.

This is no doubt one of the storms presaged by the present calm on James River and hinted at by the Richmond press; a storm that is destined to burst as suddenly on James River as did that of the first Merrimac on the waters of Hampton Roads. May it not be as disastrous even as that in its consequences?

Let one of our best gunboats be detailed to watch the coming of this craft through the blockade, and as soon as she makes her appearance let preparations be complete for running her ashore and capturing her, which is the easiest and most profitable way of disposing of her.

General McClellan has the above information, and will no doubt take proper action in the matter. If this craft, as formidable as she is represented, should come suddenly down upon us, simultaneously with the rebel land forces, it would no doubt create rather an unpleasant little sensation here. This should be very studiously guarded against. She could do a great deal of damage by addressing herself exclusively to our shipping and land forces before she could be overcome, unless preparations were already perfected for running her ashore and capturing her before she should reach our vulnerable point on the river.

Later. SATURDAY EVENING, *July* 26.

I have just learned from an intelligent Jew boy, fourteen years of age, who is right from Richmond, under flag of truce (to join his parents, formerly of City Point, but now residing on Eppes Island, opposite that place), that he saw the new rebel gunboat Richmond, as they call her, lying at the Rocketts, below Richmond, day before yesterday, receiving her iron plating; that they were plating her with transverse layers of iron plates, about 2 inches thick and 6 or 8 inches wide; that he saw about fifteen hands at work on her, but the plating did not seem to be very far advanced yet; that he was not on board, and did not see her interior; saw no guns aboard, but saw that there were three portholes on each side and one on each end. He did not know anything about when they expected to have the craft completed or what they intended to do with her; that he heard it said she was built pretty much like the Merrimac, except that she was not so long and large.

From this statement it would appear that there will be probably plenty of time for the making of proper preparations for the reception of this monster, and that she will probably not interfere with our James River operations for two or three weeks yet, if it is the intention to bring her at all below the blockade. Within that time I hope to see wonders accomplished by our land forces.

I will keep close watch of this secesh monster through every available channel of information, and promptly report her progress as near as possible.

Ever truly, your friend and obedient servant,

T. S. S. [T. S. SEYBOLT.]

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[Indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
July 29, 1862.

The Secretary of War directs me to refer the within to General Halleck, and to beg his attention to the same.

C. P. WOLCOTT,
Assistant Secretary of War.

Memorandum for the Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *July* 27, 1862.

In accordance with the directions of the President, I left here on the afternoon of the 24th and reached the camp of General McClellan on the afternoon of the 25th.

I stated to the general that the object of my visit was to ascertain from him his views and wishes in regard to future operations. He said that he proposed to cross the James River at that point, attack Petersburg, and cut off the enemy's communications by that route south, making no further demonstration for the present against Richmond. I stated to him very frankly my views in regard to the danger and impracticability of the plan, to most of which he finally agreed.

I then told him that it seemed to me a military necessity to concentrate his forces with those of General Pope on some point where they could at the same time cover Washington and operate against Richmond, unless he felt strong enough to attack the latter place with a strong probability of success with the re-enforcements which could be given to him. He expressed the opinion that with 30,000 re-enforcements he could attack Richmond with "a good chance of success." I replied that I was authorized by the President to promise only 20,000, and that if he could not take Richmond with that number we must devise some plan for withdrawing his troops from their present position to some point where they could unite with those of General Pope without exposing Washington. He thought there would be no serious difficulty in withdrawing his forces for that purpose, but the movement he said would have a demoralizing influence on his own troops, and suggested the propriety of their holding their present position till sufficient re-enforcements could be collected. I told him that I had no authority to consider that proposition, and that he must decide between advising the withdrawal of his forces to some point to be agreed upon to meet General Pope or to advance on Richmond with the re-enforcements which the President had offered; that I was not sufficiently advised in regard to the position of our forces and those of the enemy to say how many additional troops could be given to him with safety, but that the President had decided that question by fixing his re-enforcements at 20,000, and I could promise no addition to that number.

I inferred from his remarks that under these circumstances he would prefer to withdraw and unite with General Pope; but I advised him to consult his officers and give me a final answer in the morning. He did so, and the next morning informed me that he would attack Richmond with the re-enforcements promised. He would not say that he thought the probabilities of success were in his favor, but that there was "a chance," and he was "willing to try it."

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In regard to the force of the enemy, he expressed the opinion that it was not less than 200,000, and I found that in this estimate most of his officers agreed. His own effective force was, officers and men, about 90,000, which, with 20,000 re-enforcements, would make 110,000.

I had no time or opportunity to investigate the facts upon which these estimates were based, and therefore can give no opinion as to their correctness.

His officers, as I understood, were about equally divided in opinion in regard to the policy of withdrawing or of risking an attack on Richmond.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 27, 1862. (Received 2 p. m.)

General THOMAS,
Adjutant-General:

I respectfully apply for permission to send an officer from each regiment to the place where it was raised, with authority to bring on every officer and man he can find fit for duty, whether on leave of absence or not, no matter from what source the leave may be granted.

I have official assurance that the number of people absent on leave is having an injurious effect on the recruiting service. Absentees tell such exaggerated stories of the hardships and sufferings of campaign life and of the carnage of the battle-field that they deter recruits from enlisting. The leaves might be revoked by an order from the Adjutant-General's Office, except where the case is that of *bona fide* sick and wounded, unable to join.

The officers I propose to send from each regiment should report at your office and receive orders. Such is my application: to visit all hospitals and places where soldiers may be detained, whether on extra duty or otherwise, no matter by what order or whose authority, and bring them here to their regiments. The recruiting service—service on important duty—of course will be excepted. I am satisfied that the most fertile source of increase to the diminished ranks of the regiments is to get back the absentees from the army. There are two well men absent to one really sick man.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Harrison's Bar, July 27, 1862.

General M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I was sorry not to see more of you the other day. I should have been glad to canvass opinions with you. It struck me that Halleck underrates the number of enemies opposed to us about Richmond. That number is 200,000, and is more than double our numbers; rely on this as certain and act accordingly.

Another matter is worthy of some notice. It is reported that the rebels have two armored vessels at Richmond, and that one is ready for action. This I learn from Navy officers. I know not the extent of

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the means of resistance to those boats, but if they get among our transports and come opposite this camp you can understand the damage they can do as well as myself.

As I have been as earnest in the cause as any other man, and as my recorded testimony will prove and demonstrate that I have not in any case overrated the resistance to be expected at any period of this war, I will now tell you my conclusions in regard to the present situation of our affairs:

First. This army cannot take the offensive with a certainty of success with re-enforcements less than 100,000. For this army to retake the offensive without any re-enforcements would result in certain defeat.

Second. This army, in its present position, may be starved out, and if we have not the means to destroy the enemy's gunboats it may be destroyed or neutralized for a time long enough to enable the enemy to send 100,000 men into Maryland.

You are aware that a year and a half ago I was for striking quickly. I am now in favor of striking as quickly as we can, but not to strike until we get together an army large enough to give us a strong probability of success. For us to strike as our means are now, in regard to strength and situation, our chances for success would not be one in three.

Please think of what I have said in this letter, for if the Army of the Potomac is destroyed the South will overrun the North.

In haste, your friend,

E. D. KEYES.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 143. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., July 27, '62.*

I. The attention of the general commanding has been drawn to the serious and growing evil of applications in person. All papers of a personal nature are acted upon at these headquarters in the order of their presentation and with the greatest possible dispatch, and any solicitations or inquiries with a view to hasten action on them, besides being in violation of repeated general orders, produce merely delay and embarrassment to the public business.

The general commanding directs that no notice be taken at these headquarters of any application presented in person without the express permission of the corps commander or the highest commander of a body of troops not serving in a corps; such permission to be granted only in cases where it is evident that highly important private interests or the public service will suffer or life be endangered by the brief delay incident to the usual course of business, and to be signified in the indorsement of the corps or other independent commander. Except in such cases and with such permission no officer will be allowed to visit these headquarters for the purpose of facilitating an application or to ascertain its result.

Commanding officers are desired to send in all applications and other papers of a personal nature only by the messengers required by existing orders to report at these headquarters at 10 a. m. and 5 p. m. daily.

II. The duties of the inspector-general and assistant inspector-general at these headquarters are coextensive with the wants and interests of the service in its various departments and branches. They are clothed with the authority of the general commanding to give such directions for the good of the public service as may appear necessary,

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correcting evils found to exist, as far as practicable, and the time and place of inspection, investigation, &c.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, July 28, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK,
Commanding U. S. Army:

GENERAL: From the Richmond and Wilmington published notices of the battles of 26th and 27th June north of the Chickahominy I have with some care made out the following organizations of the attacking forces:*

The division of A. P. Hill is spoken of as 14,000 strong. I find notices of regiments: Second Florida went into action 250 strong; Twelfth Mississippi, 397; Eighteenth Virginia, 625; Eighth Virginia, 185; Forty-seventh Virginia, 275. From this it is evident that the old regiments are weak. The new conscript regiments may be strong, but the strongest regiment here named is less than 400 muskets.

I find four divisions, twelve brigades, and nine batteries named as in the battles north of the Chickahominy, as follows:

STONEWALL JACKSON'S DIVISION.

Brigadier-General Hood: Fifth and three other Virginia regiments. Brigadier-General Whiting: Eleventh, Sixteenth, Second Mississippi, and two other regiments. Brigadier-General Pender: (Five regiments.)

D. H. HILL'S DIVISION.

Brigadiers not named.

A. P. HILL'S DIVISION.

Brigadier-General Ripley: Forty-fourth and Forty-eighth Georgia, Second and Third North Carolina. Brigadier-General Gregg: Five regiments. Brigadier-General Branch: Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eighth, Thirty-third, Thirty-seventh North Carolina, and one other regiment.

LONGSTREET'S DIVISION.

Brigadier-General Featherston: Eleventh and Nineteenth Mississippi and Second Mississippi Battalion. Brigadier-General Pryor: Fourteenth Louisiana, St. Paul's Louisiana Battalion, Third Virginia, Fourteenth Alabama, and Second Florida. Brigadier-General Wilcox's Alabama regiments.

[ARTILLERY.]

Batteries named: Second Richmond Howitzers, Third Richmond Artillery, Johnson's, Donaldsonville, Thomas' (Purcell's), Crenshaw's, Andrews', First Maryland, Davidson's, Letcher Artillery, Milledge Artillery, and Morris Artillery.

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*For a correct statement, see Vol. XI, Part II, pp. 483–489.

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These notes may be of use in dealing with this army, giving the distribution of some sixty regiments, which must be nearly one-half of the whole Richmond army.

An intelligent writer of Branch's division, writing in the North Carolina Wilmington Journal of 8th July, claiming credit for North Carolina, says that Carolina and Georgia contributed full one-half the regiments engaged in the Richmond battles—from 36 to 40 each. This would make the whole army, in his opinion, 152 regiments, which, at 700 men average, would give a total force of 105,000 men.

Permit me to suggest that a careful comparison of the notices which appear in the newspapers, lists of prisoners of war, and deserters, if made by an intelligent, educated man, would soon give us a tolerably correct idea of the forces opposing us. If this has ever been done in this part of the country there is, I fear, reason to believe that it has been done by incompetent or unfaithful hands.

Of 480 prisoners sent from Harrison's Bar to New York, the lists published in the New York Herald give the names of 74 regiments and 1 battalion of infantry, 5 batteries of artillery, and 1 regiment of cavalry. I find notices of 90 regiments infantry, 1 regiment cavalry, and 12 batteries of artillery all by name as in these battles.

I am, respectfully,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 29, 1862.

Surgeon-General HAMMOND:

There are 12,000 sick reported here now; 2,000 of them could, I think, take the field.

JONATHAN LETTERMAN,
Surgeon, Medical Director.

[Indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
July 31, 1862.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Halleck, General-in-Chief.

By order of the Secretary of War:

C. P. WOLCOTT,
Assistant Secretary of War.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, July 29, 1862.

Col. JAMES BELGER,
Quartermaster, U. S. Army, Baltimore, Md.:

The Secretary of War directs that you engage at once all the steamers in port that can be used for the transportation of sick and wounded men, and send them immediately to Harrison's Landing, on the James River, to report to the senior officer of the quartermaster's department in charge there.

Report by telegraph your action under this order.

By order of the Secretary of War:

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 29, 1862—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK:

Nothing new of much interest. Received another batch of wounded yesterday. Apprehensions begin to be felt by some of arrival and effect of Merrimac No. 2. I doubt whether she is yet ready for service.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

BERKELEY, VA., *July* 30, 1862—7 a. m.

Major-General HALLECK,
Commander-in-Chief:

Deserters state that another regiment of rebel cavalry was to go to Hanover Court-House to-day, and that Longstreet, Hill (A. P.), and Hill (D. H.), are still with their troops in the immediate vicinity of Richmond, and have not gone to Gordonsville. Total of forces with Jackson stated at 30,000 to 35,000. I hope that it may soon be decided what is to be done by this army, and that the decision may be to re-enforce it at once.

We are losing much valuable time, and that at a time when energy and decision are sadly needed.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley, July 30, 1862.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Commanding U. S. Army:

GENERAL: There is nothing new of any interest to give you. The cavalry scouts are daily extending their beats, and meet with less resistance during the past few days. The enemy still at Malvern [and] its vicinity, rather in small force—probably a brigade, with a battery. Nothing seems to be doing on the other side of the James. If I had even a part of Burnside's command I would beat them up on that bank of the James, as well as stir them up at Malvern. I am very weak in cavalry—not more than 3,800 for duty. Could not Williams' regiment from Port Royal and Mix's from Monroe both be ordered up here? A large part of my cavalry was taken from me when I left Washington for Fort Monroe. I feel the want of it very much. It is not true (my information goes) that either of the Hills or Longstreet are with Jackson near Gordonsville, which renders it more probable that Jackson's is more than 30,000 to 35,000, although it is possible that I may be deceived about the latter point.

Heavy re-enforcements have arrived in Richmond and are still coming. I still feel that our true policy is to re-enforce the army by every available means and throw it again upon Richmond. Should it be determined to withdraw it, I shall look upon our cause as lost and the demoralization of the army certain.

I sincerely hope that some decision may be promptly arrived at, and that it may be in accordance with the views I have so frequently expressed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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FORT MONROE, *July* 30, 1862.

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

I do not consider it very important to have some of the mortar vessels in the Gulf sent here at this time. They could not possibly reach here in season to assist General McClellan. If they were already here they might perhaps be used to advantage.

No news have reached me from McClellan or Commodore Rodgers since I telegraphed you yesterday from Fort Monroe.

GOLDSBOROUGH.

WASHINGTON, *July* 30, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding, &c., Army of the Potomac:

MY DEAR GENERAL: You are probably aware that I hold my present position contrary to my own wishes, and that I did everything in my power to avoid coming to Washington; but after declining several invitations from the President I received the order of the 11th instant, which left me no option.

I have always had strong personal objections to mingling in the politico-military affairs of Washington. I never liked the place, and like it still less at the present time. But aside from personal feeling, I really believed I could be much more useful in the West than here. I had acquired some reputation there, but here I could hope for none, and I greatly feared that whatever I might do I should receive more abuse than thanks. There seemed to be a disposition in the public press to cry down any one who attempted to serve the country instead of party. This was particularly the case with you, as I understood, and I could not doubt that it would be in a few weeks the case with me. Under these circumstances I could not see how I could be of much use here. Nevertheless, being ordered, I was obliged to come.

In whatever has occurred heretofore you have had my full approbation and cordial support. There was no one in the Army under whom I could serve with greater pleasure, and I now ask from you that same support and co-operation and that same free interchange of opinions as in former days. If we disagree in opinion, I know that we will do so honestly and without unkind feelings. The country demands of us that we act together and with cordiality. I believe we can and will do so. Indeed we must do so if we expect to put down the rebellion. If we permit personal jealousies to interfere for a single moment with our operations we shall not only injure the cause but ruin ourselves. But I am satisfied that neither of us will do this, and that we will work together with all our might and bring the war to an early termination.

I have written to you frankly, assuring you of my friendship and confidence, believing that my letter would be received with the same kind feelings in which it is written.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *July* 31, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Berkeley, Va.:

General Pope again telegraphs that the enemy is reported to be evacuating Richmond and falling back on Danville and Lynchburg.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
July 31, 1862.

Col. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

Your three dispatches relative to allowing officers in the regular regiments to receive appointments in the volunteer service have been received.

As very many of the best officers in the regular regiments have already been transferred to volunteer commands, thereby leaving a majority of the officers young and inexperienced and requiring the instruction and example of the few remaining older officers, I do not think the officers you allude to could be spared without manifest detriment to the service—at all events in the present uncertain state of affairs.

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Harrison's Landing, Va., July 31, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I extract the following from a report of one of the medical officers lately from Richmond:

Three small schooners, one little black steamboat, and two hulks fitting up for some purpose comprised the entire navy on the river within view.

Very respectfully,

F. J. PORTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

AUGUST 1, 1862.

Copy furnished Commodore Wilkes, commanding James River flotilla.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fort Monroe, Va., July 31, 1862.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: It becomes my duty to remind you that the term of service of three of my regiments expires before the close of next month, one on the 25th of August and the others a few days later. These regiments are the Eighth, Thirteenth, and Twenty-fifth New York State Militia.

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Two of them are at Suffolk, and the other is divided between Yorktown, Fort Wool, and Point Lookout.

It is indispensable that these regiments should be replaced by others before they are mustered out of the service. My force is very small. In this fort, second in importance to none in the Union, I have but 500 men. It should be garrisoned by a regiment of artillery. I understand that Colonel Gibson, late in command at Fort Delaware, has a regiment of artillery in the District of Columbia. He has peculiar qualifications for the command of a garrison, and I should like very much to have him here. There is a great deal to be done here to put the fort in proper condition, and there are not men enough for the ordinary guard and police duty.

The condition of the ground surrounding the fort is very bad. I have instituted a sanitary commission for the purpose of removing nuisances, but the great amount of work done on the point for the Army of the Potomac renders it indispensable that we should have a full garrison, commanded by an experienced and vigilant officer.

I need a regiment of cavalry at Suffolk to replace one of the militia infantry regiments whose time is about to expire. I have less than 500 mounted men at that point, and they are almost worn-out by the hard service which they are performing as pickets and scouts between the Nansemond and Blackwater. The enemy have already come down several times on the east side of the Blackwater, carrying off both white men and negroes to the army at Richmond.

I am told that there is a fine regiment of cavalry at Port Royal, which is not needed there. If I can have this regiment for Suffolk and Colonel Gibson's artillery for this post I will be very glad to take them in place of the three militia regiments whose term of service is about to expire.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Berkeley, August 1, 1862.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Commanding U. S. Army:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your kind and very welcome letter of the 30th reached me this evening.

My own experience enables me to appreciate most fully the difficulties and unpleasant features of your position. I have passed through it all and most cordially sympathize with you, for I regard your place, under present circumstances, as one of the most unpleasant under the Government. Of one thing, however, you may be sure, and that is of my full and cordial support in all things.

Had I been consulted as to who was to take my place I would have advised your appointment. So far as you are concerned I feel toward you and shall act precisely as if I had urged you for the place you hold. There is not one particle of feeling or jealousy in my heart toward you. Set your mind perfectly at rest on that score. No one of your old and tried friends will work with you more cordially and more honestly than I shall.

If we are permitted to do so, I believe that together we can save this unhappy country and bring this war to a comparatively early termina-

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tion. The doubt in my mind is whether the selfish politicians will allow us to do so. I fear the results of the civil policy inaugurated by recent acts of Congress and practically enunciated by General Pope in his series of orders to the Army of Virginia.

It is my opinion that this contest should be conducted by us as a war, and as a war between civilized nations; that our efforts should be directed toward crushing the armed masses of the rebels, not against the people; but that the latter should, so far as military necessities permit, be protected in their constitutional, civil, and personal rights.

I think that the question of slavery should enter into this war solely as a military one; that while we do our best to prevent the rebels from making military uses of their slaves, we should avoid any proclamations of general emancipation, and should protect inoffensive citizens in the possession of that as well as of other kinds of property. If we do not actively protect them in this respect, we should at least avoid taking an active part on the other side, and let the negro take care of himself.

The people of the South should understand that we are not making war upon the institution of slavery, but that if they submit to the Constitution and laws of the Union they will be protected in their constitutional rights of every nature. I think that pillaging and outrages to persons ought not to be tolerated; that private property and persons should enjoy all the protection we can afford them compatible with the necessities of our position. I would have the conduct of the Union troops present a strong contrast with that of the rebel armies, and prove by our action that the Government is, as we profess it to be, benign and beneficent; that wherever its power extends protection and security exist for all who do not take an active part against us. Peculiar circumstances may force us to depart from these principles in exceptional cases; but I would have these departures the exceptions, not the rule. I and the army under my command are fighting to restore the Union and the supremacy of its laws, not for revenge. I therefore deprecate and view with infinite dread any policy which tends to render impossible the reconstruction of the Union, and to make this contest simply a useless effusion of blood.

We need more men. The old regiments of this army should be promptly filled by immediate drafting, if necessary. We should present such an overwhelming force as to make success certain, be able to follow it up, and to convince the people of the South that resistance is useless.

I know that our ideas as to the concentration of forces agree perfectly. I believe that the principles I have expressed in this letter accord with your own views. I sincerely hope that we do not differ widely.

You see I have met you in your own spirit of frankness, and I would be glad to have your views on these points, that I may know what I am doing. We must have a full understanding on all points, and I regard the civil or political questions as inseparable from the military in this contest.

It is unnecessary for me to repeat my objections to the idea of withdrawing this army from its present position. Every day's reflection but serves to strengthen my conviction that the true policy is to re-enforce this army at the earliest possible moment by every available man and to allow it to resume the offensive with the least possible delay.

I am, general, your sincere friend,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN

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FORT MONROE, *August* 1, 1862—5 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I have just received the following dispatch from General Mansfield at Suffolk. I have written to you by to-day's mail in regard to my force here and at Suffolk:*

Major-General DIX, *Fort Monroe:*

The enemy has been re-enforced in cavalry, and numbers 800 in my front. Our scouts will soon be shut in here, and they will do as they please with the railroads beyond us—all for the want of cavalry here.

MANSFIELD.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., August 1, 1862.

His Excellency CHARLES S. OLDEN,
Governor of New Jersey, Trenton:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d ultimo.†

I am much gratified by the consideration you have given to my suggestions, and am encouraged in the belief that the wise course you are pursuing will still maintain for New Jersey the honorable position she won early in the struggle, by promptly filling up the regiments which have done her so much honor and the country such good service.

I beg leave to ask Your Excellency's attention to the inquiry, Whether the difficulty you apprehend in recruiting for the old regiments might not be met by consolidating the present thin companies, so as to fill them to the standard, and raising new companies to fill up the regiments?

The leaven of veteran companies would soon make soldiers of the whole regiment; and I presume the knowledge that the men would be better cared for and would share the prestige of the old colors, the prospect of immediate service and the more liberal bounties, would more than counterbalance the supposed advantage to be gained from the appointment of new field officers. At all events I think the soldiers we should add immediately to the old regiments by this would be worth much more to us than double their number in new ones, which could not be expected to take the field for months. Just now time counts for many men.

Sincerely thanking you for the kind expressions contained in your letter, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. MCCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *August* 2, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK:

MY DEAR GENERAL: We have not received the order we expected

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* Reference is probably to letter of July 31, next preceding.
† Not found.

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from you assuming the command of the Army. I nevertheless take the liberty of writing to you in regard to this post. I have only 500 men in the fort, half of them armed only with swords. There should be a regiment of artillery. I have asked for Colonel Gibson (captain in the Regular Army) and his regiment near Washington. He is just the man for this post. Everything about it is dirty in the extreme. Major Roberts, the commanding officer, has an excuse in the small number of men, which is not sufficient for guard and police duty. I trust the importance of this command (though I could have no personal objection) may not be increased by the withdrawal of the Army of the Potomac; a measure, as I learn, still under consideration. I cannot err, I am sure, when I say it would be nearly fatal. It would break the spirit of the country, now exceedingly depressed in some quarters, and go very far to insure intervention from abroad. If we can ever reach Richmond, it seems to me the object can be best effected from the position we now occupy. At all events I feel a painful conviction that we cannot bear a retrograde movement at this moment. I have conversed freely with General Burnside on this subject before you were here and since his return, and he concurs with me entirely.

Excuse these suggestions, and believe me, respectfully and truly, yours,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 146. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., Aug. 2, 1862.*

Commanders of army corps, divisions, brigades, and regiments are held responsible for the faithful execution of the following directions:

1. Brigade and regimental quartermasters and commissaries, as well as sutlers, must be located within the lines of their respective commands or in the immediate vicinity.

2. Officers and enlisted men will not be detached from their respective companies and regiments except when absolutely necessary for the interests of the military service.

Pioneers shall not be detached from their companies.

Guards for the different headquarters and for their respective commands shall be turned off daily, and the men will not be used for menial service.

3. Officers responsible for public property must account for the same as required by Army Regulations.

4. Special reports of the officers and enlisted men absent from each regiment and independent command will be made to these headquarters, through the regular channels, every Sunday morning. The reports will state where and by whose authority the officers or men are absent, and, if absent on duty, the nature of such duty. They will be signed by the several commanders through whose headquarters they pass.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[AUGUST 2, 1862.—For General Orders, No. 147, organizing the Ambulance Corps, see Vol. XI, Part I, pp. 217–219.]

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 150. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., Aug. 2, '62.*

The suggestions and recommendations contained in the following letter from the medical director of this army and the directions for cooking appended thereto are published for the information and guidance of all concerned, and it is enjoined upon corps and other commanders to see that they are fully carried out.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Extracts.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., July 18, 1862.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following extract from a report of the sick and wounded in this army, taken from the latest reports made to this office by the medical directors of corps, and to present to you certain suggestions for removing the causes of disease and improving the general condition of the men:

* * * * * * *

The diseases prevailing in our own army are generally of a mild type and are not increasing; their chief causes are, in my opinion, the want of proper food (and that improperly prepared), exposure to the malaria of swamps and the inclemencies of the weather, excessive fatigue and want of natural rest, combined with great excitement of several days' duration and the exhaustion consequent thereon. I would recommend, to remedy these evils, that food, with an abundance of fresh vegetables, shelter, rest, with a moderate amount of exercise, be given all the troops, and general and personal police be enforced. To accomplish this, I would suggest that an abundant supply of fresh onions and potatoes be used by the troops daily for a fortnight and thereafter at least twice a week, cost what they may; that the desiccated vegetables, dried apples or peaches, and pickles be used thrice a week; that a supply of fresh bread, by floating ovens or other methods, be distributed at least three times a week; that the food be prepared by companies and not by squads, and that there be two men detailed from each company as permanent cooks, to be governed in making the soups and cooking by the inclosed directions; that wells be dug as deep as the water will permit. That the troops be provided with tents, or other shelter, to protect them from the sun and rain, which shall be raised daily and struck once a week and placed upon new ground; the *tentes d'abri* also to be placed over new ground once a week; that the men be required to cut pine tops, spread them thickly in their tents, and not sleep on the ground; that camps be formed not in the woods, but a short distance from them, where a free circulation of pure air can be procured, and where the ground has been exposed to the sun and air to such an extent as to vitiate the noxious exhalations from damp ground, saturated with the emanations from the human body and from the decaying vegetation. Sleep during the day will not compensate for the loss of it at night; that not more than two drills per day be had, one in the morning from 6.15 to 7, and one in the evening from 6.30 to 7.15; that the men be allowed to sleep until sunrise, and that they have their breakfast as soon as they rise; this, with the labor required for policing,

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will be sufficient during the present season. That when troops are to march they should have breakfast, if only a cup of coffee, before starting, and after their arrival in camp each man be given a gill of whisky in a canteen three-fourths filled with water. I would also recommend that the strictest attention be paid to policing, general and special; that all the troops be compelled to bathe once a week—a regiment at a time, if possible, being marched to the river from a brigade one hour after sunrise or an hour and a half before sunset—to remain in the water fifteen minutes; that sinks be dug and used, 6 inches of earth being thrown into them daily, and when filled to within 2 feet of the surface new sinks be dug and the old ones filled up; that holes be dug at each company kitchen for the refuse matter and filled in like manner; that the entire grounds of each regiment be thoroughly policed every day, and the refuse matter, including that from stables and wagon yards, buried 2 feet below the surface or burned; that dead animals and the blood and offal from slaughtered animals be not merely covered with a layer of earth, but buried at least 4 feet in the ground; that the spaces between regiments be kept policed, and no nuisance whatever be allowed anywhere within the limits of this army, and that regimental commanders be held strictly accountable that this most important matter is attended to. I think if these suggestions be carried into effect that we may with reason expect the health of this army to be in as good a state as that of any army in the field.

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Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JONATHAN LETTERMAN,

Surgeon and Medical Director, Army of the Potomac.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, U. S. A.,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Directions for cooking in camp.

The importance of soup as a diet for troops is not sufficiently apprehended except by veteran soldiers, those of experience in the field. It cannot be too highly esteemed, and should be used to a much greater extent than it is. Bean soup, when properly made, is one of the best that can be used; when improperly made, one of the worst. The beans must be washed, steeped in water overnight, put on the fire at reveille, and boiled slowly for six hours; a piece of pork, say one ration for three men, put in three hours before dinner; this, eaten with a little pepper and vinegar, makes a wholesome and palatable dish. The cooking is everything; if not well done, it is positively injurious; if well done, it is wholesome. The great principle in making soup is that it must be boiled slowly and for a long time; it cannot be boiled too much. In making beef soup all the bones should be used, together with half rations of beef, rice, and desiccated and fresh vegetables, with salt and pepper; the desiccated vegetables should be steeped in water for two hours, and boiled with the soup for three hours; the rice should be added, after having been washed half an hour before the soup is served; the beef must first be put in cold water, and the soup kept at a low boil for five hours. Beef should not in any case be used for cooking until cold. Hard bread will be more palatable and more easy of digestion if placed in the ashes until thoroughly heated; it can also be improved by breaking it in pieces an inch or two square and soaking it thoroughly in

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warm water, then placing it in a frying-pan with a few slices of pork, and cooked for five minutes, stirring it, that all may be cooked alike. Such portions of beef as are not used in making soup should be cut in pieces about the size of a hen's egg, with half a ration of potatoes and a small-sized onion cut in slices to one man, and half a ration of desiccated vegetables previously soaked in cold water for an hour, with a few small pieces of pork, adding salt and pepper, with water sufficient to cover well the ingredients, and stewed slowly for three hours, will make an excellent dish. Beef that is not used thus should be cooked on coals or held before them on a stick or fork, and no salt or pepper put on until cooked; the salt put on before cooking only assists in abstracting the juices of the meat and in making it dry and hard when cooked. The secret in using the desiccated vegetables is in having them thoroughly cooked. The want of this has given rise to a prejudice against them which is unfounded; it is the fault of the cooking, and not of the vegetables. Pork should be boiled three hours, having been previously soaked in water, to abstract the salt, for three hours, the water being changed twice in that time; when cold and cut in slices, with a piece of bread and a slice of onion, it makes an excellent lunch; cut in slices and toasted over coals it is sweet and good. Coffee should be roasted over a slow fire, constantly stirring it until it becomes of a chestnut-brown color, and not burnt, as is so commonly done. It should be boiled for twenty minutes, set one side, sweetened, well stirred, and a little cold water added to cause the grounds to settle. Cabbage is more wholesome when cut in shreds and eaten with a little vinegar, pepper, and salt, than when cooked. All fried meats are unwholesome; they should be boiled or broiled.

JONATHAN LETTERMAN,
Surgeon and Medical Director, Army of the Potomac.

BERKELEY, *August* 3, 1862—11.30 p. m.

H. W. HALLECK,
Commander-in-Chief U. S. Army:

I need several more large ferry-boats immediately to maintain proper communication with south side of James River. There should be no delay in sending them. I have asked for them several times.

Our information tends to the belief that there is a large force between Petersburg and Richmond, as well as on north side of the James River.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 3, 1862.

Brigadier-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General, Washington:

It is indispensable that I have more ferry-boats. Please send them forward as soon as possible.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Westover Landing, Va., August 3, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that Brig. Gen. John H. Martindale, commanding First Brigade, Morell's division, be relieved from duty with this army corps.

On the morning of the 2d July, immediately after the defeat of the rebel army and while our army was being withdrawn from Malvern Hill, Brigadier-General Martindale did propose to one or more officers of this command or in their hearing, and to one officer of influence and rank of his own brigade in a manner to influence his judgment, "to lay down their arms; surrender to the enemy while they could obtain terms."

Immediately after making this proposition General Martindale did leave his command and proceed to the rear, preceding by several hours his brigade to camp.

These facts, which I am prepared to substantiate, have destroyed whatever of confidence, as a general and disciplinarian, I have had in him for the past two months, and I have reason to believe that of his brigade. If this application be granted, I desire General Martindale may be informed of the ground on which he is relieved.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
F. J. PORTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Addenda.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 280. } HDQRS. OF THE ARMY, ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE,
Washington, October 6, 1862.

I. A court of inquiry is hereby appointed to meet in this city on the 8th instant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate the charges against Brigadier-General Martindale.

Detail for the court.—Brig. Gen. W. S. Harney, U. S. Army; Brig. Gen. Silas Casey, U. S. Volunteers; Brig. Gen. David B. Birney, U. S. Volunteers.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Halleck:
E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 178. } WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE,
Washington, October 31, 1862.

I. The court of inquiry appointed to meet in the city of Washington, D. C., on the 8th instant, pursuant to Special Orders, No. 280, dated Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, October 6, 1862, and of which Brig. Gen. W. S. Harney, U. S. Army, is president, has investigated the charge preferred by Maj. Gen. Fitz John Porter against Brigadier-General Martindale, U. S. Volunteers.

It being the opinion of the court that the charge against Brigadier-General Martindale is disproved, and that the interests of the service do not require the further investigation of the subject-matter of the inquiry, Brigadier-General Martindale is restored to duty.

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II. The court of inquiry of which Brigadier-General Harney, U. S. Army, is president, is dissolved.

By command of Major-General Halleck:

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
August 4, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK,
Commanding the Army:

On the 10th July, in answer to General McClellan's call for ferry-boats the only two ferry-boats at this place, the Tallacca and the Chancellor Livingston, were sent to him. Two tug-boats, the Maryland and the New Haven, which could be used as ferry-boats, were sent at the same time. Two ferry-boats, the Star and the Eagle, now under repairs in Baltimore, are ordered to be got ready and sent to him as speedily as possible. All other ferry-boats, if any, under control of the Quartermaster's Department were within his command or serving in other departments out of reach.

There were on the 21st July about thirty steamboats anchored off Harrison's Landing, with a large fleet of sailing vessels and barges and canal-boats, all at the disposal of the commander of the Army of the Potomac. I doubt whether any army ever had at command larger means of water transportation on any inland river.

The Assistant Secretary of War, Mr. John Tucker, leaves this city for New York this afternoon to endeavor to procure two or three more large ferry-boats for James River. I doubt whether they can reach Harrison's Landing in time to be of any use.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

P. S.—I write this note because I see General McClellan informs you that he has asked several times for ferry-boats. I remember only the request about the 10th of July, and I then sent all we had here, and ordered those repairing at Baltimore to be completed and forwarded. There has been no neglect on the part of the Quartermaster's Department.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, August 4, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday, calling for ferry-boats, was received this morning. I have also seen a dispatch from you to General Halleck, stating that you had asked for ferry-boats several times. On the 10th of July, when I was first informed of your need of such boats, I ordered all the ferry-boats or boats which could be used as ferry-boats which were then in the control of this department to be sent to you. The steam ferry-boats Tallacca and Chancellor Livingston were sent at once, with orders to report to Colonel Ingalls, chief quartermaster,

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at Harrison's Bar. The tug-boats Maryland and New Haven, which, though not regular ferry-boats, can be used as such, were sent the same day. The only other ferry-boats at the disposal of the Quartermaster's Department were the Star and the Eagle, both of which were being repaired in Baltimore, and orders were given to the quartermaster at that post to hasten their repairs and dispatch them as soon as possible. One of them is, I understand, just ready for service, and will be forwarded. The Assistant Secretary of War, Mr. John Tucker, goes this afternoon to Philadelphia and New York to see whether he can obtain three or four more ferry-boats. If he can, they will be dispatched.

As these boats are not fit for sea voyages except in the most moderate weather, it is doubtful, even if he can obtain them, whether they can reach you in time to be of any use. Such boats can only be obtained by taking them off the ferries in which they find constant employment, and, as their removal is very inconvenient to the public, it is difficult to get them. Had your dispatch named the exact number of boats you needed or the number of troops it was necessary to carry at once I should have had some guide; but a general requisition for ferry-boats leaves me in the dark.

I thought in sending you at once four boats and ordering two more to be dispatched as soon as their repairs could be completed that I was fully meeting your request. There is a large number of steamers on the river at Harrison's Bar; some thirty were there on the 25th ultimo, with a large fleet of vessels and barges, which, towed by the steamers, could move a very large number of troops.

I estimate the total capacity of the steamers alone at Harrison's Landing at nearly 24,000 men per trip. At Fort Monroe are many more.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

OFFICE COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE,
ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., August 4, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In reply to the circular of this date from headquarters, relative to the number of days' rations on hand at this place, I have the honor to state that the entire command has in its possession, exclusive of to-day, not less than four days' rations, except Hooker's division, which has three days' rations on hand.

As nearly as we can estimate there are now nine days' rations of most of the principal articles of the ration on shore at the western depot, except of hard bread and flour, of which there are two days' supply on shore.

In addition to the above, there are over fifty days' rations for this army on board of transports in this harbor.

Steamers with beef cattle are arriving every day or two; there are seven or eight days' [rations] of that article now on hand.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. F. CLARKE,
Colonel, Aide-de-Camp, and Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 4, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Department of Northern Virginia:

SIR: I have the honor to bring to your notice the following occurrence:

On the day before yesterday, as is reported by the commander of one of our gunboats lying near Jamestown Island, a white flag was observed to wave upon the shore. Upon sending a boat to ascertain the cause she was fired into by a party of troops secreted in the bushes. During hostilities between civilized belligerents the white flag is invested with a sacred character. Parties invited to converse under it enjoy immunity from attack.

It has been my purpose to conduct the military operations for which I am responsible with due regard to the obligations imposed upon militants by the laws and customs of civilized warfare. I trust not to be driven to the alternative of resorting to retaliatory measures to induce the troops of your army to acknowledge those obligations as far as my command is concerned.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERKELEY, *August* 5, 1862—7 a. m.
(Received 1.20 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK:

Your telegram of yesterday* received and is being carried out as promptly as possible with the means at my command. No human power could have moved the sick in the time you say you expected them to be moved.

Judging from the cannonading now going on, Hooker's command is sharply engaged this morning. I go to the front in a few minutes. The enemy threatened us last night on the other side of James River. All passed quietly, however.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., August 5, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, James River:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your indorsement of the 29th ultimo, forwarding lists of worthy officers and enlisted men of the volunteer forces, with the view of their being promoted by their Excellencies the respective Governors. The said lists have been separated, as requested by you, and forwarded, indorsed as follows, viz:

The inclosed lists, with those for other States, were received at this office from Major-General McClellan, with his indorsement herewith.

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*See McClellan's report, Series I, Vol. XI, Part I, p. 82.

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In accordance with his recommendation these lists are respectfully forwarded to His Excellency the Governor of ———, with full concurrence in the request made by General McClellan.

It is respectfully requested that copies be made for the State records and the originals then returned to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP ON JAMES RIVER,
August 5, 1862.

General JOHN COCHRANE,
Washington, D. C.:

We have retaken Malvern Hill to-day, and from the way I am told the enemy behaved I am convinced that if we had a re-enforcement of 20,000 men we could walk straight into Richmond. Do represent this in the right quarter.

E. V. SUMNER,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. Army.

Approved.

R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
August 5, 1862—1 a. m.

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

I have had submitted to me the orders sent to General McClellan, and I must say I never was more astonished than at their contents. The withdrawal of the Army of the Potomac would be the most suicidal act that any administration could commit, and be attended with every disaster that could befall our army—causing its utter demoralization and total destruction and the waste of all its vast equipage—and I must say, if anything can, would entirely ruin the Union cause by its entire destruction. I can now speak advisedly upon its position and that of the naval force which I command. My stand-point of view is different from that of any other person in the country, and although I have not ventured, as others, to express the opinions I entertain, I deem it imperative on me now to state what they are.

The naval force has now under its control the supply of the army, and I indulge in no fears of keeping it entirely free from any serious impediment. The force I have is not entirely sufficient to begin active operations, but the moment I receive the additional vessels the Department is to supply me I am ready for active offensive operations, and with the aid of the army on the north bank of the James River I have no doubt that Richmond can be taken. It may require hard knocks, but success, I think, is finally certain. When Fort Darling is taken the way will be open, and a combined attack from the north shore by the

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army and naval forces will be difficult, nay impossible, to resist. My information relative to the difficulties to be encountered is consistent, and, I think, trustworthy, and my officers and men are all in spirits, and full of energy to undertake their part of the service. An abandonment of the army position would have a great effect to destroy the animus of the whole fleet. The aid I could give General McClellan in a retrograde movement would be comparatively trifling, and I have no transportation to offer. The situation of the army is secure under any event. Its position now is strong; the several corps are again re-established, and all are in excellent spirits for the coming campaign and the investment and taking of Richmond. My information is that the enemy are concentrating their forces near and around Petersburg, and there has been a great withdrawal of troops from Richmond. I think the general impression among the rebels is that it is McClellan's intention to throw his force across the river, and while they are under this delusion the true movement may be made on Richmond along the north bank of the James River as soon as the communication by railroad is destroyed, which it is my intention to effect; and had I been furnished with the scout canoes, to enable me to reach them by the creeks, the bridges and railroads would have been ere this broken up and destroyed. I expressed to you my woful disappointment when I saw the character of the boats sent me. I shall say nothing further on this at present, but it will readily be seen on an inspection of the map how completely this would operate to prevent the enemy's forces from returning to support those in Richmond. A combined movement by General Pope with concentrated force and General McClellan at the same time would effect this much-desired object, I have no doubt, supported as the latter would be by the naval force under my command acting in harmonious co-operation.

Thus much for the onward progress. Now let me consider the retreat and abandonment of the position. In the first place an entire demoralization of the troops and their officers would take place. There is no transportation adequate to the move, and all the splendid equipage gathered at a vast expense would necessarily have to be destroyed to prevent falling into the hands of the enemy, and as soon as the rebels discovered this intention the whole rear guard of this army would be sacrificed, if not captured, and an entire disgrace fall upon the Union cause, and well it might be said this great cause had been deserted.

As to the time it would take is another consideration, and this could not be less than five or six weeks at the least if it were done by water, and the rebels, apprised of the moment, would rush to the banks of the James River and cause such annoyances that would make even that route very precarious, and a series of attacks on our part necessary to destroy their batteries, which would be fully equal to what is to be encountered toward Richmond. Another course is the only one possible in my view, and that is a retreat by land. The Chickahominy and all its sad details of battle again fought over, and by the time the army reached its transports at Fort Monroe, or higher up, its *morale*, spirit, and energy would be entirely gone, and instead of being able to re-enforce other army in the field by the Rappahannock, it would have wasted itself away. Indeed, it would be a sad beacon for the country and its armies to mourn over, and to raise the hopes and strength of the rebels be the greatest blow that the Union cause has ever felt. I trust in God this direful act will not be carried out—our noble cause will be ruined if it is—and that we may be left here to wend our way to Richmond. General McClellan is confident as I am in the result—the capture of the

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rebel capital, and of maintaining the honor, safety, and glory of the Union and its Army.

I pray you lay these views before the President, with a hopeful wish on my part that they will be impressed on his mind as forcibly as they are on mine. Truthful and conscientious I know them to be, and a firm conviction on my part, as well as General McClellan's, of the disaster which must follow in the one case and a glorious termination in the other.

Respectfully,

CHARLES WILKES,
Commodore.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Harrison's Landing, Va., August 5, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Please say to the major-general commanding that if not called off to him to-morrow or likely to be next day, if it meets with his approval I would like to arrange next day to destroy all bridges over Powell's Creek and to push to the Suffolk Railroad, destroying all bridges over branches of the Blackwater, which would tend to delay the enemy moving down on the right bank of James River.

If it meets with his approval I would like the aid of some of Colonel Averell's cavalry.

Will you please give me a reply at as early an hour as possible to-morrow?

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. J. PORTER,
Major-General.

P. S.—I expect by this to secure for co-operation a portion of the gunboats now employed to protect boats against artillery on the river; at all events for a short time. Other reasons will be manifest.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Near Richmond, August 5, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have had the honor to receive your letter of yesterday's date, reporting that a boat sent from one of the United States gunboats near Jamestown Island to ascertain the cause of the display of a white flag on the shore had been fired into by a party of troops secreted in the bushes.

I regret the circumstance, which, if true, is unauthorized. From the locality mentioned I am led to believe that the party alluded to were not soldiers of the army. It may be probable that boats have landed men who by their acts have exasperated persons on the river, who took this method to revenge their grievances.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, August 5, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN, *Berkeley:*

I have no re-enforcements to send you.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fort Monroe, Va., August 6, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I received your letter of the 4th yesterday, instructing me to send a command to level embankments on the James River. Commodore Wilkes has taken upon himself to ascertain and advise me where these embankments are. I do not understand whether you allude to the north as well as the south bank of the river.

The difficulty will be to get a command to do the work. I have no force whatever which I can use unless I withdraw a regiment or two from Suffolk, and from recent indications I think this would be very hazardous.

The enemy's force on the Blackwater has been strengthened, and General Mansfield has been asking for re-enforcements. I can spare nothing from Williamsburg or Yorktown, and here I have for the fort only 500 men, and at Camp Hamilton only 600 men fit for duty, to do all the guard service for the hospitals, now greatly extended.

Commodore Wilkes will see you to-morrow morning, and I ask the further directions of the commanding general.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, August 7, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN, *Berkeley:*

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your private letter of the 1st instant was received a day or two ago, but I have been too busy to answer it sooner.

If you still wish it I will order Barnard here, but I cannot give you another engineer officer unless you take Benham, for you already have a larger proportion than any one else. I had, most of the time, out West only two, and you, with no larger force, have a dozen engineer officers.

I fully agree with you in regard to the manner in which the war should be conducted, and I believe the present policy of the President to be conservative.

I think some of General Pope's orders very injudicious, and have so advised him; but as I understand they were shown to the President before they were issued I felt unwilling to ask him to countermand them. An oath of allegiance taken through force is not binding, and to put over the lines those who do not take it is only adding numbers to the rebel army. What he has made the general rule should be only the exception, and I have so advised him.

I deeply regret that you cannot agree with me as to the necessity of

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reuniting the old Army of the Potomac. I, however, have taken the responsibility of doing so, and am to risk my reputation on it. As I told you when at your camp, it is my intention that you shall command all the troops in Virginia as soon as we can get them together; and with the army thus concentrated I am certain that you can take Richmond. I must beg of you, general, to hurry along this movement. Your reputation as well as mine may be involved in its rapid execution.

I cannot regard Pope and Burnside as safe until you re-enforce them. Moreover, I wish them to be under your immediate command for reasons which it is not necessary to specify. As things now are, with separate commands, there will be no concert of action, and we daily risk being attacked and defeated in detail. I would write you more fully, but nearly all my time is occupied with the new drafts and enlistments. They are doing well, but several weeks must elapse before we can get the troops into the field.

Bragg seems to be concentrating a large force against Buell, and the latter is asking for re-enforcements. When he will reach Chattanooga is a problem I am unable to solve.

Yours, truly,

H. W. HALLECK.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *August* 7, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Berkeley, Va.:

General Burnside is without cavalry or artillery, and in that condition an attack on him would be disastrous. There is but one battalion of cavalry and three effective batteries here. You must send him the cavalry and artillery ordered with all possible dispatch.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

FORT MONROE, VA.,
August 7, 1862.

Major-General HALLECK:

Have been unable to furnish 3,000 stand of arms for the exchanged prisoners just received at Harrison's Landing from Richmond. There ought to be here always at least 10,000 stand of arms. Will you order the Ordnance Department to furnish some? The ordnance officer here, Lieutenant Baylor, tells me he has an unanswered requisition at Washington.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HAXALL'S, *August* 8, 1862—6 a. m.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The night has passed off quietly. The enemy has not advanced beyond Malvern Hill, nor has he any force to the east of the Quaker road. But one vedette (mounted) of his has been seen between this and the blacksmith shop, and he retired on seeing my patrol. I shall send a regiment of infantry and some cavalry forward this morn-

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ing to ascertain more surely what force the enemy has at Malvern. They can easily do this without risk, and it will keep the rebels uncertain as to what our designs are. My cavalry had a good night's rest, and, unless I receive orders from you by 12 m. to the contrary, I will send Averell's cavalry back to him. Colonel Kelly, of the Irish Brigade, tells me that General Meagher is expected to-day. Does the general commanding intend he shall command here? His brigade was sent me yesterday by General Sumner, at my request, for some support to my batteries. This position is a good one to operate from, and can easily be held. I have given orders for two days' rations and forage to be brought out at a time.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Westover, Va., August 9, 1862.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Uniting the reports from commanding officers on the other side of the river and using the statements of negroes as far as they can be relied upon I gather as follows:

That the enemy have been and are still gathering at Petersburg, the vicinity of which, on this side of the Appomattox, they are intrenching. Troops, followed by a large number of wagons, were seen yesterday coming into Petersburg from the north.

The people on the opposite [side] of the river are leaving their homes and passing within the lines of the army, which extend some 4 miles this side of Prince George Court-House.

The negroes are coming this way whenever they can avoid the guards. The people are taking their household property, horses, cattle, and grain into Petersburg, and say if the war lasts a year longer they will starve to death.

The report among the people is that the raid of artillery opposite us was to draw the gunboats from above and below to enable the other artillery to be planted near Fort Powhatan, but the fire of the ships alarmed the enemy, and the artillery which had started returned. All is quiet on opposite side. Occasionally scouts of the enemy are seen, but always in small numbers.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. J. PORTER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 152. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., Aug. 9, 1862.

On and after the 14th instant all requisitions for ordnance and ordnance stores, after being signed by the colonel of the regiment for cavalry and infantry, and by the captain of the battery and chief of artillery of this army for artillery, will be presented to the acting ordnance officer of the division, and in the Artillery Reserve to the acting ordnance officer of that command. The division ordnance officers will make consolidated requisitions for all stores required for their divisions.

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After being signed by the general commanding the division their requisitions will be presented by the division ordnance officer at the ordnance depot, and, after being approved by the chief of ordnance, will be immediately issued upon.

Requisitions upon the ordnance department are not required to be made in duplicate.

Division ordnance officers will be held responsible that the following supply of ammunition for their divisions shall be kept constantly on hand, viz, 250 rounds per gun, including that in the ammunition chests, for artillery; 150 pounds per man, including that in the cartridge boxes, for cavalry and infantry.

In moving, the wagons containing the reserve ammunition will be under the control of division ordnance officers. Ammunition wagons will be distinguished by a horizontal stripe, 6 inches wide, painted on each side of the cover—for artillery ammunition, red; for cavalry, yellow; for infantry, light blue. The wagons will also be distinctly marked with the number of the corps and division to which they belong and the kind and caliber of ammunition contained. The main depot for the army will be designated by a crimson flag, marked "Ordnance Depot, U. S. A."

Upon the march, or when the brigades are widely separated from each other, the wagons containing the reserve ammunition for each brigade may, at the discretion of the division commander, be turned over to the brigade quartermaster, who will draw his supplies from the division ordnance officer.

Division ordnance officers will select from the non-commissioned officers and privates of the division a competent clerk, and from those of each brigade a mechanic capable of repairing small-arms, who will be provided with a complete set of armorer's tools. If skilled in their employment, each will be paid 40 cents per day by the ordnance department. A sergeant will also be detailed from each division as an acting ordnance sergeant.

Division ordnance officers will be relieved from all duty with their regiments and will report for duty at division headquarters.

In condemning ordnance and ordnance stores officers will be governed by paragraphs 1021, 1022, and 1023, Army Regulations.

Unserviceable stores will not pass through division ordnance officers, but be turned into the depot ordnance officer, accompanied by duplicate invoices and receipts, stating the exact condition of the stores.

Upon the receipt of this order acting ordnance officers will report for further instructions to First Lieut. Horace Porter, chief of ordnance, at the end of the ordnance wharf.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 154. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., Aug. 9, 1862.*

The major-general commanding directs the attention of the officers and soldiers of the Army of the Potomac to the following executive order by the President, which has been officially published:

EXECUTIVE ORDER.] WAR DEPARTMENT, *Washington, July 22, 1862.*

First. Ordered that military commanders within the States of Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and Arkansas, in an or-

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derly manner, seize and use any property, real or personal, which may be necessary or convenient for their several commands for supplies or for other military purposes; and that while property may be destroyed for proper military objects, none shall be destroyed in wantonness or malice.

Second. That military and naval commanders shall employ as laborers, within and from said States, so many persons of African descent as can be advantageously used for military or naval purposes, giving them reasonable wages for their labor.

Third. That, as to both property and persons of African descent, accounts shall be kept sufficiently accurate and in detail to show quantities and amounts, and from whom both property and such persons shall have come, as a basis upon which compensation can be made in proper cases; and the several departments of this Government shall attend to and perform their appropriate parts toward the execution of these orders.

By order of the President:

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

No official copy of this order has been received at these headquarters, and the general commanding has for this reason delayed the issuing of a general order to carry into effect the views and directions of the President. Some recent occurrences in this army have, however, shown that it has become necessary to do so to prevent this executive order being made a pretext for military license.

The order of the President accords so substantially with the course uniformly pursued by this army on this Peninsula under the orders and instructions of the general commanding, that no material change in any respect is required thereby in its conduct and government.

Personal property necessary or convenient for supplies or other military purposes of this army will be, as heretofore, seized and used by the proper quartermasters or subsistence officers upon the orders of commanders of army corps; or, in cases of troops employed on detached service where army corps commanders are not accessible, by order of the officer in command of such detached force.

In all cases the officers thus making the seizures shall take an account showing the kind and quantities of property seized and by whose command; the amounts of its estimated value and the names of the persons from whom the same shall have come. Whenever circumstances admit of so doing receipts will be given to the owners or their agents, specifying simply the particulars above mentioned. Copies of all such accounts and receipts will be transmitted in the usual manner by the officers making them to these headquarters.

All officers and soldiers of this army are enjoined and ordered to abstain from all seizures of private property except in the mode above prescribed; all other appropriations will be regarded and punished as pillage. The idea that private property may be plundered with impunity is perhaps the very worst that can pervade an army. Marauding degrades as men and demoralizes as soldiers all who engage in it and returns them to their homes unfitted for the pursuits of honest industry. This army is composed mostly of young men, and the general commanding, to whose care they are intrusted, owes it to the parents who have sent their sons and to the communities that have sent the flower of their youth into the military service of their country to warn and restrain them from an evil so pernicious.

The order of the President requires the application of a similar rule in the use of real property. This, however, does not apply to such uses as are inseparable from military operations, to wit, marches, camps, pasturage, hospitals, depots, quarters, and damages occasioned by active hostilities; but no use should be made or injury done to real property beyond what is actually necessary or convenient for military purposes.

The destruction of any species of property in wantonness or malice

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is expressly prohibited by the President's order, as well as by the Articles of War and the usages of all civilized nations. All commanding officers are earnestly enjoined to exercise the utmost vigilance on this subject. Straggling and trespassing are the invariable indications of a tendency to this description of crime.

Inhabitants, especially women and children, remaining peaceably at their homes must not be molested; and wherever commanding officers find families peculiarly exposed in their persons or property to marauding from this army, they will, as heretofore, so far as they can do so with safety and without detriment to the service, post guards for their protection.

In protecting private property no reference is intended to persons held to service or labor by reason of African descent. Such persons will be regarded by this army, as they heretofore have been, as occupying simply a peculiar legal status under State laws, which condition the military authorities of the United States are not required to regard at all in districts where military operations are made necessary by the rebellious action of the State governments.

Persons subject to suspicion of hostile purposes, residing or being near our forces, will be, as heretofore, subject to arrest and detention until the cause or necessity is removed. All such arrested parties will be sent, as usual, to the provost-marshal-general, with a statement of the facts in each case.

The general commanding takes this occasion to remind the officers and soldiers of this army that we are engaged in supporting the Constitution and laws of the United States and in suppressing rebellion against their authority; that we are not engaged in a war of rapine, revenge, or subjugation; that this is not a contest against populations, but against armed forces and political organizations; that it is a struggle carried on within the United States, and should be conducted by us upon the highest principles known to Christian civilization.

Since this army commenced active operations, persons of African descent, including those held to service or labor under State laws, have always been received, protected, and employed as laborers at wages. Hereafter it shall be the duty of the provost-marshal-general to cause lists to be made of all persons of African descent employed in this army as laborers for military purposes, such lists being made sufficiently accurate and in detail to show from whom such persons shall have come.

Persons so subject and so employed have always understood that after being received into the military service of the United States in any capacity, they could never be reclaimed by their former holders. Except upon such understanding on their part the order of the President as to this class of persons would be inoperative. The general commanding therefore feels authorized to declare to all such employés that they will receive permanent military protection against any compulsory return to a condition of servitude.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 10, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. DIX,
Commanding Seventh Corps:

GENERAL: On the 8th instant a steamer from Fort Monroe passed

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this army carrying a flag of truce on its way to City Point and returned without reporting at these headquarters. The commanding general desires that an explanation be required of the officers concerned of this violation of the requirements of military courtesy as well of military rule, which dictate that no communication be had with the enemy through a flag of truce except with the consent and knowledge of the general in command.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., August 10, 1862.

The general commanding directs that you have your corps in readiness to march on temporary service to-morrow at 2 o'clock p. m. The men will be provided with 40 cartridges in boxes and two days' rations in haversacks.

Four days' extra rations of subsistence and three days' forage for animals, with 60 cartridges per man, will be loaded in wagons ready to move with the column.

Such of your well men as have not muskets will be supplied at once by requisitions upon the ordnance department or from men who are sick.

You will give directions to have such of your old tents cut up as may be necessary to supply deficiencies in shelter-tents. The men will march as light as possible, and will leave everything except what is absolutely necessary for the march.

The requirements of General Orders, No. 153, from these headquarters to be carried out at once in every particular where it does not conflict with these instructions.

Should you require more wagons than you have you will apply to the chief quartermaster.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 153. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., Aug. 10, '62.

I. The following allowance of wagons is authorized:

For the headquarters of an army corps, four.

For the headquarters of a division or brigade, three.

For a battery of light artillery or squadron of cavalry, three.

For a full regiment of infantry, six.

This allowance will in no case be exceeded, but will be reduced to correspond as nearly as practicable with the number of officers and men actually present. All means of transportation in excess of the prescribed standard will be immediately turned in to the depot, with the exception of the authorized supply trains, which will be under the direction of the chief quartermasters of corps. The chief quartermaster of this army will direct the organization of the supply trains.

II. The army must be prepared to bivouac when on marches away

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from the depots. The allowance of tents will therefore be immediately reduced to the following standard, and no other accommodations must be expected until a permanent depot is established:

For the headquarters of an army corps, division, or brigade, one wall-tent for the general commanding and one to every two officers of his staff.

To each full regiment, for the colonel, field, and staff officers, three wall-tents.

For all other commissioned officers, one shelter-tent each.

For every two non-commissioned officers, soldiers, officers' servants, and camp followers, as far as they can be supplied, one shelter-tent.

One hospital tent will be allowed for office purposes at corps headquarters, and one wall-tent at division and brigade headquarters.

All tents in excess of this allowance will be immediately turned in to the depots.

Tents of other patterns required to be exchanged for shelter-tents will be turned in as soon as the latter can be obtained from the Quartermaster's Department. Under no circumstances will they be allowed to be carried when the army moves.

III. The allowance of officers' baggage will be limited to blankets, a small valise or carpet-bag, and a reasonable mess kit. All officers will at once reduce their baggage to this standard. The men will carry no baggage except blankets and shelter-tents. The chief quartermaster will provide storage on the transports for the knapsacks of the men and for the officers' surplus baggage.

IV. Hospital tents must not be diverted from their legitimate use, except for officers, as authorized in paragraph II.

V. The wagons allowed to a regiment or battery must carry nothing but forage for the teams, cooking utensils for the men, hospital stores, small rations, and officers' baggage. One of the wagons allowed for a regiment will be used exclusively for hospital stores, under the direction of the regimental surgeon. The wagon for regimental headquarters will carry grain for the officers' horses. At least one and a half of the wagons allowed to a battery or squadron will carry grain.

VI. Hospital stores, ammunition, quartermaster's stores, and subsistence stores in bulk will be transported in special trains.

VII. Commanding officers will be held responsible that the reduction above ordered, especially of officers' baggage, is carried into effect at once, and corps commanders are especially charged to see that this responsibility is enforced.

VIII. On all marches quartermasters will accompany and conduct their trains, under the orders of their commanding officers, so as never to obstruct the movement of troops.

IX. All quartermasters and commissaries of subsistence will attend in person to the receipt and issue of supplies for their commands, and will keep themselves constantly informed of the situation of the depots, roads, &c.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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Abstract from Tri-monthly Return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan commanding, for August 10, 1862.

Command.	Present for duty.		Present for duty, equipped.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.				Heavy.	Field.
General staff	41	.....	.....	42	48	.....	.....
U. S. Engineers (Duane)	3	175	172	284	277	.....	.....
Engineer Brigade (Woodbury)	41	1,041	1,082	1,194	1,535	.....	.....
Cavalry division (Stoneman)	207	4,969	5,172	5,853	7,352	.....	.....
Escort to headquarters (McIntyre)	5	125	127	150	231	.....	.....
Provost guard (A. Porter)	35	684	487	831	1,037	.....	.....
1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery	45	979	1,024	1,133	1,314	37	.....
Quartermaster's department guard (Ingalls).	26	299	319	373	501	.....	.....
U. S. Signal Corps (Myer)	31	108	.....	153	180	.....	.....
Total	434	8,380	8,389	9,963	12,475	37	.....
Second Army Corps (Sumner's):							
Staff	7	.....	.....	7	8	.....	.....
Sedgwick's division	336	7,857	7,831	9,196	11,018	.....	12
French's division	190	4,180	4,295	5,118	6,896	.....	6
Kimball's brigade	108	2,217	2,320	2,916	3,874	.....	.....
6th New York Cavalry, Companies D and K.	4	82	86	98	131	.....	.....
Artillery Reserve (Bartlett)	11	317	328	387	420	.....	18
Total	651	14,653	14,860	17,722	21,847	.....	36
Third Army Corps (Heintzelman's):							
Staff	12	.....	.....	12	13	.....	.....
Artillery Reserve (Bramhall)	9	320	329	377	409	.....	18
Hooker's division	329	7,863	7,475	9,582	12,660	.....	14
Kearny's division	333	7,558	7,536	9,146	12,748	.....	12
Squadron 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry	2	118	120	130	143	.....	.....
Total	685	15,854	*15,460	19,247	25,973	.....	44
Fourth Army Corps (Keyes'):							
Staff	9	.....	9	9	12	.....	.....
6th New York Cavalry, Third Battalion.	7	92	99	111	158	.....	.....
Artillery Reserve (West)	14	302	316	361	451	.....	20
First Division (Abercrombie's)	272	6,128	6,400	7,338	11,142	.....	7
Second Division (Peck's)	338	7,243	7,535	8,674	13,442	.....	10
Total	640	13,765	14,359	16,493	25,205	.....	37
Fifth Army Corps (Fitz John Porter's):							
Staff	6	....	.....	6	6	.....	.....
Artillery Reserve (Hunt)	33	750	783	906	2,319	.....	82
Morell's division	295	5,949	(†)	7,165	9,943	.....	18
Sykes' division	195	4,724	4,898	5,545	7,309	.....	10
Seymour's division	270	7,361	7,836	8,280	10,743	.....	16
Total	729	18,784	‡13,607	21,902	30,318	.....	126
Sixth Army Corps (Franklin's):							
Staff	10	.....	10	10	10	.....	.....
6th Pennsylvania Cavalry, detachment.	2	105	.....	121	162	.....	.....
First Division (Slocum's)	238	6,997	7,235	7,866	10,147	.....	26
Second Division (W. F. Smith's)	296	7,184	7,478	8,860	11,888	.....	17
Total	‖546	14,286	14,723	16,857	22,207	.....	43
Seventh Army Corps, Fort Monroe, and vicinity (Dix).	445	9,196	9,574	10,892	11,738	.....	20
Grand total	4,180	94,918	§90,372	113,076	149,758	37	343

* The original shows 15,860, there being an error either in the total or the items thereof.
† Not reported on the original.
‡ Morell's division omitted on the original.
‖ Original shows 544, an error in addition.
§ Original reports 90,772, but see notes *, †, and ‡.

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HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fort Monroe, Va., August 11, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Department of Virginia:

GENERAL: I have just received the communication of General Williams in regard to the flag of truce sent from here to City Point last week, and I regret exceedingly that the failure to report should have been regarded as a want of courtesy to you as the general commanding or as a violation of military rule. Before I took command at this post and ever since a steamer has been sent to City Point, with more or less regularity as to time, to convey letters for our prisoners in the insurgent States, to receive letters for theirs, and to land persons ordered to be sent through our lines by the Secretary of War. Of this practice I supposed you were aware. The instructions have always been the same, to deliver the letters and the persons sent under the protection of the flag, and return immediately to this post.

The flag sent last week was for these purposes and with the usual instructions. As the steamer was about leaving some ten or twelve released prisoners arrived here from Baltimore, with instructions from the War Department to deliver them for exchange. Thinking it a favorable opportunity to get them off our hands I sent them to City Point, and took a receipt, which has been delivered to General Thomas to-day.

When you were on the Chickahominy it would not have been practicable for the officer in charge of the flag to report, and since the change of position to the James River the old routine has been continued without adverting to the altered circumstances. If, therefore, there is a fault, it is entirely my own and not that of the officer; and it has arisen from my construction of the obligation which a flag of truce imposes on those who use it. I supposed it to be my duty to send the vessel bearing it to her destination and then to order her back to the point of departure, without stopping anywhere for any purpose, but confining her rigidly both in going and returning to the specific purpose for which she was sent.

With this view of the sacred character of the flag of truce, when I went to meet General Hill and desired to see you on my way I did not raise the flag until after I had passed your headquarters and took it down the moment I reached them on my return. If I am in error it is the result of too strict a construction of my duty, and I regret that it should have been considered as a departure, even through inadvertence, from the rules of military subordination or courtesy.

It is hardly necessary for me to add that no flag will be sent from this post hereafter without instructions from you. When persons arrive here with orders from the War Department to be sent across the lines I will retain them and advise you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HARRISON'S LANDING, *August* 11, 1862.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

We are embarking a cavalry regiment of 1,000 men and horses. It will require three days for the medical department to ship away the

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sick. Most of our large transports are used now in that service. If we are to embark from Yorktown or Fort Monroe we shall require many of those horse sailing vessels. The command is under orders to move at 2 to-day somewhere. If we are expected to arrive in time to beat back the rebels from the Potomac there should be great haste. You will recollect that it required six weeks' time to transport this army from Alexandria, where there were very excellent facilities. The batteries that went to Aquia recently were forty-eight hours in embarking, and we pushed them to the utmost. I refer to this merely to serve as some guide to your calculations. It is my duty and heartfelt wish to assist all in my power.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

HAXALL'S, *August* 11, 1862.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your note of this date received.* There are moments when the most decided action is necessary to save us from great disasters. I think such a moment has arrived.

The enemy before us is weak. A crushing blow by this army at this time would be invaluable to disconcert the troops of the enemy to the north of us. That blow can be made in forty-eight hours. Two corps would do it, and be in position to go wherever else they may be ordered by that time.

From all I can learn there are not 36,000 men between this and Richmond, nor do I believe they [can] get more before we can whip them. I have guides ready, and know the roads sufficiently well to accomplish anything the general wants.

I write this as a friend. I shall willingly carry out the general's orders, be they what they may, but I think he has an opportunity at this time few men ever attain.

Destroy this, and whatever I have said shall not be repeated by me.

Very truly, yours,

A PLEASONTON.

HAXALL'S, *August* 11, 1862—8 p. m.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: It is just reported from the pickets that the enemy has been pounding and making a good deal of noise this afternoon at Turkey Bridge, creating the impression that they were rebuilding it. I have directed that they be strictly watched during the night and shall report anything that occurs. My two infantry regiments of the Irish Brigade are small, about 400 men each, but my position is very strong, and I will make them answer.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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* Not found.

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HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, *August* 11, 1862.

Number of horses belonging to the regiments comprising the Cavalry Division.

	Serviceable.	Unserviceable.
FIRST BRIGADE, Colonel AVERELL.		
3d Pennsylvania Cavalry (Lieutenant-Colonel Owen)	643	31
4th Pennsylvania Cavalry (Colonel Childs)	858	71
1st New York Cavalry (Lieutenant-Colonel Von Schickfuss)	804	38
5th United States Cavalry (Captain McArthur)	430	23
	2,765	163
SECOND BRIGADE, General PLEASONTON.		
1st United States Cavalry (Captain Reno)	299	.....
6th United States Cavalry (Captain Kautz)	593	62
8th Illinois Cavalry (Major Clendenin)	814	.....
8th Pennsylvania Cavalry (Colonel Gregg)	731	7
	2,437	69
INDEPENDENT REGIMENT.		
6th Pennsylvania Cavalry (Lieutenant-Colonel Smith)	618	17
Total	5,820	249
Grand total serviceable and unserviceable	.....	6,069

Respectfully submitted.

A. J. ALEXANDER,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., August 11, 1862.

As the army is ordered to be in readiness for a movement at a moment's notice, and to be prepared to bivouac until a permanent depot is established, the general commanding directs that the allowance of tents to officers serving at these headquarters be reduced to one wall-tent for every two officers and one common tent for every two officers' servants. All tents in excess of this allowance, except such as may be actually necessary for office purposes, will be turned in to the assistant quartermaster at headquarters.

Officers will be expected to reduce their baggage, as far as practicable, and especially to take no large trunks or boxes, and they will see that this reduction is extended to their servants and to the enlisted men serving under their orders, some of whom have now more baggage than is allowed to commissioned officers. The surplus baggage should be plainly marked and turned over to the assistant quartermaster, who will have it stored on the transports.

These reductions must be made immediately on the receipt of the order to move. Captain Dandy will reassign the wagons as to conform more nearly to the diminished number of officers now serving at headquarters and the reductions above ordered.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., August 11, 1862.

It is not expected that the troops will move from their present position to-day, but commanding officers will proceed to carry out with all possible dispatch the arrangements prescribed in General Orders, No. 153, from these headquarters, of the 10th instant, on the subject of the allowance of transportation, tents, and baggage.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 101. } WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 11, 1862.

The following order is published to the Army:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
Washington, July 11, 1862.

Ordered, That Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck be assigned to command the whole land forces of the United States as General-in-Chief, and that he repair to this capital as soon as he can with safety to the positions and operations within the department now under his special charge.

A. LINCOLN.

Major-General Halleck, having been assigned, in accordance with the above order of the President, assumed command of the Army as General-in-Chief on the 23d of July, 1862.

By command of Major-General Halleck:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
August 12, 1862.

Col. D. D. TOMPKINS,
Assistant Quartermaster-General, New York:

Charter and dispatch to Fort Monroe, to report to General Dix and await orders, a fleet of transports. They should be capable of ascending the James, the York, and the Potomac Rivers. Schooners, brigs, and ships going out in ballast to load with troops, artillery, wagons, and horses. Two hundred such vessels should be dispatched immediately, chartered by the day for not less than ten days and as much longer as the Government needs them. Send back with utmost dispatch all steamers bringing to New York or other ports near you sick from Harrison's Landing.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
August 12, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Army of the Potomac, Harrison's Bar:

GENERAL: I ordered long since all the steamers that could be chartered in Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston to be sent to

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Harrison's Bar, or if they could not ascend the river to report at Fort Monroe and await orders.

All that could be chartered were thus sent and added to the fleet which has been for weeks in the Chesapeake and James.

There were thirty steamers at Harrison's Bar when I saw you there, so reported to me by Colonel Ingalls, chief quartermaster Army of the Potomac; a large number at Hampton Roads. There were some hundreds of sailing vessels at Fort Monroe and in the James.

General Burnside's vessels, both sail and steam, were ordered back for your use after moving his troops to Aquia Creek.

By sacrificing the hay in the vessels in the river, throwing over or landing the deck load, which is generally heavy, I supposed you would have the means of moving from Fort Monroe as fast as the men could be embarked and disembarked. The steamers alone at Harrison's Landing were estimated to carry from that distance at a single trip 20,000 to 25,000 men. The embarkation of the wagons and horses will take time.

No more steamers can be obtained without breaking up the lines of ferries and transportation by which the new levies can be brought to the seat of war.

I have to-day directed the quartermaster in Philadelphia to send to Fort Monroe to await orders all the roomy schooners he can get in that port, and the quartermaster at New York to send two hundred sailing vessels, if he can get them, with the same orders.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

BERKELEY, VA., *August* 12, 1862—4 p. m.
(Received 11.8 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

Information from various sources received within a few days past goes to corroborate the evidence you have received that the rebel army at Richmond has been much weakened by detachments sent to Gordonsville, and that the remaining forces have been so much dispersed between Richmond and this place on both sides James River as to render it doubtful if they can be concentrated again rapidly. D. H. Hill, with a division or more, is in the vicinity of Petersburg; others are along the south bank of James River back of Fort Darling, and I am quite certain that Longstreet, with about 18,000 men, now occupies an intrenched position, which can probably be turned, and is about 3 miles above Malvern Hill. I can in forty-eight hours advance on him and either drive him into the works around Richmond or defeat and capture his force. Should I succeed in accomplishing the latter I see but little difficulty, if my information prove correct, in pushing rapidly forward into Richmond. This would involve the co-operation of all my available force, but the question would soon be decided, and if successful, I should require re-enforcements to maintain my communications.

This effort would, it seems to me, have the effect to draw back the forces now before General Pope, and thus relieve Washington from all danger. One of my general officers, who for five days past has held a position near Malvern Hill, in a letter just received, says:

The enemy before us is weak, and from all I can learn there is not 36,000 men between this and Richmond, nor do I believe they can get more before we can drive them. * * * I have good guides, &c.

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General Barnard, chief of my engineers, is decidedly in favor of this movement at this time.

Under these circumstances I consider it my duty to present the foregoing information, and for your consideration, as under existing orders I do not feel authorized to make the movement.

I shall continue to forward re-enforcements and sick as rapidly as transports arrive, and have given the necessary instructions to insure no delay in moving the army.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

BERKELEY, VA, *August* 12, 1862—7 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK:

One thousand and seven sick sent off to-day.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HAXALL'S, *August* 12, 1862—9.30 a. m.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The lieutenant-colonel commanding the two infantry regiments of the Irish Brigade reports to me this morning that he has not more than 650 in both regiments, each being about 300 strong. He also says that his men are without blankets, &c., and are worn down with the duties they have lately performed. What these duties are I don't know, but I imagine they want to get away to Harrison's Landing.

I think it my duty to report this to you, for whatever men I have I want them good ones.

I am highly pleased with the conduct of my own brigade and that of the batteries, and should not like to do them the injustice of placing them with infantry that do not inspire confidence. If, therefore, any arrangements can be effected to relieve these regiments by better ones the service would be benefited.

I should like to be notified when the troops on my right are drawn in, that I may prevent being surprised on that side.

The enemy sent up four white rockets in quick succession last night about 11 p. m., and have been firing on my pickets pretty constantly without advancing. Two of my men were reported wounded yesterday evening.

Please send me two or three copies of the best map you have of the Peninsula. I wish to study the roads and make inquiries concerning them in case I should require the information *en route* to Yorktown, Fort Monroe, or Richmond.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HAXALL'S, *August* 12, 1862—7 p. m.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Pickets quiet to-day. A rebel officer came down to the

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mill and called out to our pickets that if they did not fire his pickets would not. No reply was returned.

The Port Royal received no orders to-day about firing at Malvern.

I have posted guards at Haxall's and Royall's.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

The boats that crossed the river last night were contrabands, that have gone in to Harrison's Landing.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., August 12, 1862.

Corps and other independent commanders will have loaded up at once six days' rations of all the components except meat, which will be for four days'—bacon or salt pork.

Four days' short forage for wagon animals will be carried in each wagon. Four days' short forage for the cavalry and artillery horses will also be taken.

When the march commences all the men must have two days' rations in their haversacks.

Each man will have his cartridge box filled, and 60 rounds additional will be carried in the wagons.

The artillery ammunition will be limited to that which can be carried in the limber boxes and caissons.

The wagons will not be loaded with over 1,800 pounds, including forage.

As soon as the wagons are loaded commanders will report to headquarters what number they have disposable.

A reasonable amount of axes, spades, and picks will be carried in the division trains.

These arrangements will be made this day.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

[S. WILLIAMS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY CORPS,
Fort Monroe, Va., August 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. MCCLELLAN,
Commanding Department of Virginia:

GENERAL: I deem it my duty to call your attention to the condition of my command. The force at this post is so much reduced that it is impossible to perform the guard and police duty required. We have only about 300 men for duty. The Fifth Maryland, the only regiment at Camp Hamilton, is now doing guard duty every other day, and I have a statement from the surgeon that the sickness of the troops is augmented by this severe service.

The term of service of three of my regiments expires during the present month. Two of them are at Suffolk, and the third is divided between Yorktown, Fort Wool, and the hospital at Point Lookout.

A reference to my monthly report forwarded to-day will show the

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necessity of re-enforcing me promptly. At this post especially I must have another regiment, or the hospitals at Camp Hamilton cannot be properly guarded.

Begging your early attention to the subject, I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HAXALL'S, *August* 13, 1862—6 a. m.

General R. B. MARCY,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Last night the infantry pickets reported the enemy advancing with heavy artillery. I sent out to see, and found they had drawn up the sluice-gates at the mill pond, and that the water was flooding the country. I sent a party, closed down the gates, and examined the mills, where none of the enemy is to be found.

I was questioning a contraband a day or two ago about all the roads leading to Richmond from Malvern, and I judge they have obliged the darkey to communicate to them my questions. The darkey lives at the mill, and I did not want to remove him to excite suspicion.

The enemy have, no doubt, the idea we are about to advance on Richmond and endeavored to cut off the road by water. This I consider a sign of weakness on their part. I shall send scouts to-day to see if they are still on Malvern.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., August 14, 1862.

Major-General MCCLELLAN,
Berkeley, Va.:

Assistant Secretary Fox suggests that one of the large guns near Fort Monroe be put in battery at Newport News, so as to be in readiness for the new Merrimac. A telegram of last night from General Pope confirms former reports that the enemy was fairly repulsed at Cedar Mountain. He is probably waiting for re-enforcements.

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 14, 1862.

Col. D. CAMPBELL, *Williamsburg:*

Establish your headquarters at Barhamsville or Roper's Church. Send two or three squadrons toward New Kent as far as Slater's house, and one or two squadrons from Barhamsville toward Eltham, about 3 or 4 miles out.

Send a squadron to Diascund Bridge, to communicate with Colonel Averell. Let all the squadrons you send out remain constantly on the alert at the positions assigned them until relieved. Should anything occur, that is, should the enemy be seen or heard of, communicate im-

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mediately with Colonel Averell via Diascund Bridge. The squadrons sent out should be placed in positions where they can resist any cavalry force that may threaten them. You will be in position to-morrow at as early an hour as practicable, and receive orders from Colonel Averell. Communicate frequently with the troops at new pontoon bridge at Barrett's Ferry, near mouth of Chickahominy. General F. J. Porter will cross the bridge to-morrow.

Inform General Van Alen that you have been ordered to advance, but give him no particulars of your movements or those of this army. General Van Alen will be instructed to send you all his cavalry except one squadron.

Regard this dispatch as confidential.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 155.* } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va., Aug.* 14, '62.

1. In the contemplated movement, unless otherwise directed, the train of each division will precede the division, arranged in the order of march of the troops, and will be itself preceded by an advanced guard taken from the division.

The train of the reserve artillery of the corps will go with the train of the leading division.

Each quartermaster and his assistants must be with his train, and require it to take at the proper time its appropriate place in the column and keep it, and will see that his wagons do not check the march of the troops or wagons in the rear.

2. Each regimental commander will be held responsible for delay caused by any wagons of the train of his regiment not being ready. So, too, with each brigade and division commander regarding his supply train. Any train not prepared to move at its appropriate time will be held, to fall in the rear of the division trains.

3. Trains of batteries attached to divisions will accompany that of the division in the order of march.

Corps commanders will designate the order of march of the supply trains.

4. Staff officers not otherwise occupied will find their appropriate place in the line of march, ascertaining the cause of any detention that may occur.

5. On arriving in camp each commander will see to all necessary arrangements, such as requiring wagons to be camped quickly, properly faced, bridges to be made, fences removed, ditches filled, &c., to enable trains to leave and re-enter the road without delay.

6. If troops or artillery are required to pass wagons at any time they will pass on the left, and the wagons will close sufficiently to the right and keep moving if possible. Trains must be kept closed, and must not be cut by other trains, artillery, or troops.

7. During a temporary halt, quartermasters will close up and double or park their trains in convenient places near the road so as to allow rear trains to move up, thus shortening the line occupied by the column.

8. No accident, such as breaking down of a wagon, balking of a team,

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* The following [above] was not published as a general order. It was directed to be considered a circular, without number. General Orders, No. 155, of the series of 1862, bears date September 9.

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&c., must on any consideration be allowed to delay the wagons in the rear of the one specially affected. An escort must be left with it and the train must move on.

9. Quartermasters will see that their animals are well watered before starting out.

No stoppage must be made for the purpose of watering while on the road.

Wagon wheels will not be locked for the descent of hills, except where it cannot be avoided without danger.

10. To each brigade train the brigade commander will assign a guard of companies amounting to 100 men. No other men will be permitted to go with the wagons. These companies will permit no stragglers of any command whatever to join the train, compelling all such to join their own regiments or march as prisoners and assist the guard in giving aid to the wagons. The officers will exercise their cool judgment and energy to expedite the march and not wait to be asked for assistance.

11. Commanders of corps, divisions, brigades, regiments, companies, and guards will take the necessary steps to prevent straggling, and punish, on arrival in camp, all offenders. Men must not be permitted to leave the ranks. At the end of every hour on the march there will be a rest of five minutes, and the men must avail themselves of these intervals to re-arrange belts, obey the calls of nature, &c.

12. The hour of marching, the route, and the place of encampment will be specially communicated to each corps commander.

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HARRISON'S LANDING, *August* 15, 1862.

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

Your dispatch of the 13th is just received. We have embarked troops from this point to the full extent of our ability. Colonel Falls and others will tell you so. When we reach Yorktown and Fort Monroe the army will be sent off rapidly. Up to this moment the thing could not have been done faster. I believe I comprehend the whole question. I have the will to execute your orders, and shall be ably assisted by Captain Sawtelle and our other officers and agents. The movement to the rear has commenced. This river will be clear of vessels early to-morrow. Captain Sawtelle will go by water in charge of the fleet and to make arrangements for embarkation at Yorktown, Newport News, and Fort Monroe. I shall go by land to conduct the trains, &c. Rely upon us, general. There shall be no unsatisfactory delay that we can avoid in the quartermaster's department. The vessels sent to us should assemble at Fort Monroe.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Aide-de-Camp, and Chief Quartermaster.

HAXALL'S, *August* 15, 1862—1.30 p. m.

Gen. R. B. MARCY, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Yesterday a free negro living near Malvern came in and told me that the enemy had obstructed all the roads near the river

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leading to Richmond, and that the only road they had open to Richmond at this time is the Middle road, which joins the Quaker road at the blacksmith shop.

I am inclined to believe that this is correct, and, if true, this will be the road upon which they may attempt to march upon us.

There are only two outlets for this road, one on the first Long Bridge road and the other the second Long Bridge road, that can lead to my rear. These two roads I am now guarding very carefully, and will obstruct them as soon as I receive orders to move.

Do me the favor to mention in my final instructions the particular routes the general desires me to pursue, that I may instruct my officers advisedly.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PLEASONTON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Will it be necessary for me to have guides?

I open this to say have just heard from my squadron on second Long Bridge road. It has been within 4 miles of the Chickahominy and heard nothing of the enemy, and is now stationed at Mr. Walker's, on that road.

A. P.

[AUGUST 15–SEPTEMBER 2, 1862.—For correspondence relating specially to transfer of troops from the Peninsula and not embraced in McClellan's general report, see Series I, Vol. XII, Part III.]

BARRETT'S FERRY, CHICKAHOMINY,
August 17, 1862—2.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Commanding U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have had this morning a full conversation with General Burnside. To be perfectly frank with you, I must say that I did think from some of your recent telegrams that you were not disposed to treat me in a candid or friendly manner. This was the more grating to me because I was conscious that although I differed from you in opinion I had done so with entire frankness and loyalty, and that I had not delayed one moment in preparing to carry out your orders. I am glad to say that Burnside has satisfied me that you are still my friend; in return I think he can satisfy you that I have loyally carried out your instructions, although my own judgment was not in accordance with yours.

Let the past take care of itself. So long as I remain in command of this army I will faithfully carry out the new programme.

I feel quite confident that I will have everything across the Chickahominy by daylight. If all is then quiet I will regard my command as reasonably safe, and will feel justified in moving it solely with reference to its speedy embarkation.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

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FORT MONROE, *August* 17, 1862—1 p. m.
(Received 4.45 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Your dispatch is received. I will come to Washington as soon as possible. I am now occupied with very important duties. General Kearny's division is near Williamsburg. Porter is expected at Hampton to-night.

Everything is moving successfully.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *August* 18, 1862.

Hon. P. H. WATSON,
Assistant Secretary of War:

The ordnance officer here patched up some 2,800 arms of various calibers for the exchanged prisoners and sent them to General McClellan, but the importance of this post is such that there ought to be from 5,000 to 10,000 stand of arms always on hand in good order and ready for issue. The principal object of my dispatch of the 7th instant was to make this suggestion.

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *August* 20, 1862—9 a. m.

Maj. Gen. E. D. KEYES,
Commanding Fourth Corps, Yorktown, Va.:

Your corps is to halt at Yorktown until further orders. If you have passed beyond the vicinity of that place when this reaches you, you will at once return to Yorktown and there await further orders, which may not reach you for some days.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, August 20, 1862.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just received yours of the 17th by General Burnside.

You can scarcely imagine the pressure on me for the last two weeks and the anxiety I have had in regard to your movements. When I felt that the safety of Washington depended on the prompt and rapid transfer of your army it is very probable that my messages to you were more urgent and pressing than guarded in their language. I certainly meant nothing harsh, but I did feel that you did not act as promptly as I thought the circumstances required. I deemed every hour a golden one, the loss of which could not be repaired. I think you did not attach so much value to the passing hours; but perhaps I was mistaken. I know that there are several little matters which have annoyed you; they could not be avoided.

You asked a private telegraphic cipher. It could not be given, as

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all telegraphic messages were required to be shown to the President and Secretary of War.

You also asked certain changes of officers, which I could not possibly make. Again, at Cherrystone you thought I left the office without hearing. I supposed I had received two messages from that place and wrote an answer; being completely worn-out I retired, directing any other messages to be kept till I could get some rest. I afterward learned, to my regret, that both of those which had been deciphered were written before you came to Cherrystone. I deeply regretted the mistake, but it was too late to remedy it. I had slept but a few hours for the last three or four nights, and, like the operator who attempted to decipher your messages, I was only half awake at the time.

My dear general, we must not let little things annoy us, but push right ahead to the great end in view.

There is enough and more than enough for all of us to do, although none of us can do exactly what we could wish. That Lee is moving on Pope with his main army I have no doubt. Unless we can unite most of your army with Burnside and Pope, Washington is in great danger. Under these circumstances you must pardon the extreme anxiety (and perhaps a little impatience) which I feel. Every moment seems to me as important as an ordinary hour.

Yours, in haste,

H. W. HALLECK.

Abstract from Return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan commanding, for August 20, 1862.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Aggregate last return.	Pieces of field artillery.	Remarks.
	Officers.	Men.					
Headquarters Engineers, artillery, cavalry, provost guards, &c.	400	7,269	8,221	10,798	12,475	.....	
Second Corps	789	16,069	17,747	24,652	21,847	42	
Third Corps	.....	.....	.....	.....	25,978	.....	Assigned to Major-General Pope.
Fourth Corps	699	13,728	14,760	24,752	25,205	37	
Fifth Corps	.....	.....	.....	.....	30,313	.....	Assigned to Major-General Pope.
Sixth Corps	.....	.....	.....	.....	22,207	.....	Assigned to Major-General Pope.
Seventh Corps	455	9,205	10,963	11,776	11,738	30	
Total	2,343	46,271	51,691	71,978	149,758	109	

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Fort Monroe, August 22, 1862—3 p. m.

Maj. Gen. E. D. KEYES,
Yorktown, Va.:

As a temporary measure, please place one of your field batteries in the work at Gloucester Point.

Please push the work laid out by the engineer officers with the utmost rapidity. I hope to have new troops to relieve your men by the time transports are ready for your corps. Please detail some of your artil-

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lery officers and non-commissioned officers to instruct the garrison you found under General Van Alen in the use of heavy guns, and have them prepare tables of ranges, &c., for them. I trust to your zeal and activity in this very trying moment.

They are fighting now on the Rappahannock. A general engagement is probably going on now.

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
August 22, 1862.

Maj. Gen. E. D. KEYES,
Commanding Fourth Army Corps:

The duty intrusted to your corps, while it is no doubt disagreeable, is of the utmost importance.

I fully realize how severe a tax it is upon men who have fought so gallantly and worked so hard as your corps to require them now to go upon fatigue duty. I feel sure, however, that if they knew that the work I now call upon them to perform is necessary they will perform it cheerfully. You will please detail as large working parties as the tools available will permit to perform the work laid out by the engineer officers.

It is a matter of vital importance that the details should be furnished and the work done in the shortest possible time.

I have taken all the necessary steps to have your command relieved by new troops at the earliest practicable moment.

It is imperatively necessary that the work required should be pushed with the utmost vigor. You will be held responsible that this work is pushed with all the rapidity possible with the means at your command, and hold your command in readiness to move at the shortest notice.

If you judge it necessary, send two regiments or an entire brigade of infantry to Williamsburg to cover your operations.

Please push as far as possible the instruction of the old garrison in heavy artillery practice, and give me in full your views as to the best method of holding Williamsburg and the force necessary for that purpose.

Send a couple of squadrons of cavalry to Gloucester to patrol and examine the country on the left bank of the York.

If you think it advisable, send a much larger force of cavalry there for temporary duty. While we have a large cavalry force comparatively idle, it may be well to occupy a large portion of it in clearing out the country on that side of the York River.

If you think it best to occupy a point near Williamsburg by infantry, hold Fort Magruder and destroy the adjacent works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. B. McCLELLAN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Steamer City of Hudson, off Fort Monroe, August 23, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JOHN A. DIX,
Commanding Seventh Corps, Fort Monroe:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to inform you that the following movements have been ordered to take place immediately:

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Peck's division, except Emory's brigade and one battery, to repair to Fort Monroe and report to you for duty.

The two companies of the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry, formerly with Smith's division, to rejoin their regiment at Williamsburg, and the regiment to be under the orders of the commander of the forces at Yorktown.

Five companies of the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry, now at Williamsburg, to repair to Suffolk and report to Brigadier-General Mansfield.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *August* 23, 1862—12.20 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have just received your order to send home the three months' regiments, of which I have three, and put them *en route* two or three days before the expiration of their term. This is not possible now, as the term of one expires the day after to-morrow. The two others are at Suffolk. Their time expires next week.

General McClellan has placed other regiments at my disposal this morning to relieve them, but they are at Yorktown, and as the transportation is all engrossed in moving his army, there will be a delay of a few days.

The officers and men of these regiments are in debt at Suffolk and are anxious to pay, but they have no money. If they leave without paying it will be discreditable to them and the Government. They have received nothing. Cannot a paymaster be ordered here immediately to pay them before they leave?

JOHN A. DIX,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH CORPS,
Yorktown, Va., August 25, 1862.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:

Having given my opinion in favor of removing the army from Harrison's Landing when Your Excellency was at that place and afterward by letter, I did not learn that my views were in opposition to those of Major-General McClellan and of most, if not all, the corps commanders until quite recently. From that place something like 20 per centum of our force were carried away sick in boats. Many who came by land were weak, and I am convinced, after many observations and inquiries, that if the army had remained through the sickly season, which was but just setting in when we left, by the middle of September not more than 10,000 well men would have remained in the Army of the Potomac. Our draught animals were suffering from heat, flies, and stamping almost as much as the men. It was therefore absolutely necessary to leave Harrison's Landing. I only regret the loss of a month. I strongly advocated a movement which should bring the whole of the

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Army of the Potomac to act in conjunction with the Army of Virginia and between our capital and the enemy.

I thought, and still think, such to be our true policy; and to leave a *corps d'armée* on this Peninsula at this time, while we have command of the York and James Rivers, is like casting upon the sand the water intended for men dying of thirst. A brigade of fresh troops and one regiment of artillery ought to be here at Yorktown.

But I cannot fail to be aware that while I am absent, and while those with whom I have been serving and from whom I differed in opinion in important matters are in personal intercourse with the sources of power, my reputation may suffer. Often have I been made to feel the evil effects of my zeal in this war, and of having so often foreseen what would happen and what has happened. I urged great exertions eighteen months ago, because I knew the rebels intended to fight hard or to be let alone. As my corps (the Fourth) has been left behind on this Peninsula, and as two brigades have been detached and ordered to report to General Dix, the main object of this note is to ask Your Excellency to maintain me in a command corresponding with my rank. I ask also that you should judge me, if it be necessary to judge me at all, on the testimony of men who are not opposed to me, and who are not embittered, as many in this army are, by want of success, and anxious to throw the blame of failure upon others. Generals Meigs, Barnard, Stoneman, Cochrane, Capt. C. C. Suydam (my adjutant-general and one of the best heads in this army), and others can speak of me as I am and tell what I have done. I have done more probably than has been told.

My views of the policy of this war are in hearty, spontaneous accordance with that adopted by Your Excellency, and I trust that you will not restrain me to a narrow command, but will allow me to fill up the Fourth Corps with recruits and to march with it against the enemy. No personal consideration weighs with me, and I obey implicitly any man who is placed over me as my chief.

I am disposed to complain of nothing but a want of opportunity. If Major-General Dix is to leave Fort Monroe I would like his command; but my habits, I think, would enable me to be of more service in the field.

Begging pardon for this liberty, I remain, Your Excellency's most humble servant,

E. D. KEYES,
Major-General, Commanding Fourth Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 245. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *Alexandria, August 27*, 1862.

I. At his own request Brig. Gen. William F. Barry is relieved from duty as chief of artillery of the Army of the Potomac, and will proceed to Washington, and report to the Adjutant-General of the Army for orders. In issuing this order the general commanding avails himself of the occasion to express his thanks for the zeal and ability General Barry has at all times displayed in the discharge of his duties, and especially for his valuable services in connection with the organization of the artillery of this army.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General McClellan:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT,
August 29, 1862—1.10 p. m.

Rear-Admiral L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH,
Commanding North Atlantic Blockade Squadron, Norfolk, Va.:

Commodore Wilkes is ordered to Washington with the Wachusett, Maratanza, Sonoma, Tioga, Aroostook, and six mortar boats. The other six mortar boats go to Baltimore. He is directed to turn over the remainder of the flotilla to you, and you will make such disposition of the vessels as your best judgment dictates, closing the coast south of the Rappahannock.

Acknowledge receipt.

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 18, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: It has been represented to me that the work at Harden's Bluff, Fort Huger, is not in good defensive condition. The items of fault are reported to be as follows:

1. Want of proper traverses.
2. Want of bomb proofs.
3. Existence of wooden buildings inside the work.
4. The six 32-pounders for hot shot are not on barbette carriages and there are no guns mounted for land defense.
5. The woods are left standing close to the work on the outside.
6. The men have not been drilled at their guns for some time past.
7. A want of harmony and zealous co-operation among some of the officers, resulting from questions of rank (it is said Captain de Lagnel, who was sent to command the battery of heavy guns, is junior to the captain of one of the companies serving at the battery, and that this is one cause of trouble; and that Colonel Archer and Captain de Lagnel do not accord entirely.

Captain Rives, in charge of the engineer office here, reports in regard to the items of complaint as follows:

1. Traverses are in progress of construction.
2. Bomb proofs are being made as rapidly as possible.
3.
4. The six 32-pounders have not been mounted *en barbette* because he has not been able to procure the carriages, and for the same reason no guns have been placed for the land defense. He thinks, however, that he can procure at least two barbette carriages on which to mount a like number of guns looking to the land, and will send them to Fort Huger at once, with as many more as can be obtained, and will do the same in regard to the other carriages and guns so soon as they can be procured.
5. The engineer in charge of Fort Huger has long since been instructed to have the woods felled. A want of axes may have prevented

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the execution of the order. He will, however, be directed to have this work done at once to the extent of his means.

I have stated both sides of the question as presented to me. You will know what importance to attach to the several complaints. I think the wooden buildings in the fort, if that cause of complaint be real, should be removed as soon as practicable. If they are used as quarters, cannot tents be substituted for them? If for store-houses, some portions of the bomb proofs might be arranged to supply their places, which latter I am told is being done.

The clearing of the woods near the battery is of course necessary, and I am surprised that the commanding officer of the fort has not had this done by the troops. If the engineer force has more important work to do, axes sufficient could probably be procured from the neighbors, if they cannot be supplied in any other way.

The drill has probably been interrupted by the change in the guns, but should be resumed.

The last item of complaint, "Want of harmony among the officers," is the most important. The senior officer present should command all, but the immediate command of the guns and the men serving them should be with Captain de Lagnel, as he was assigned to his present position because of his supposed capabilities as an artillery officer. This is not a time to squabble about rank; every one must work, and do what he can to promote the cause. To save time I have assumed the statements made to me to be true, which is most likely not the case; and my suggestions on this supposition are intended mainly as explanatory.

You can best determine whether the faults referred to are so and provide the remedy, and you are desired to give the subject your earliest attention.

I am, &c.,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 18, 1862.

General J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Army of Peninsula, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Notwithstanding the demonstrations of the enemy in your front, I see nothing to prove that he intends immediately to attempt your line. He is feeling your strength and desires to prevent your occupying other points. If strong enough, his feint may be converted into a real attack. I hope you will so maneuver as to deceive and thwart him.

The roads are hardly firm enough yet to invite his advance by land, and I discover nothing at present indicating co-operation with his column from Newport News. You can therefore only prevent his accumulating information and reserve your men. Should the Monitor appear before your batteries, it has occurred to me that by reserving your fire until she arrives near and discharging by word of command or simultaneously your heavy guns at her turret at the time when her gun was protruded for delivering fire, if the gun was struck it would be disabled, or if the turret was hit by a number of shot it would be deranged or capsized from its center.

Wrought-iron shot are being forged with a view to penetrate her

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armor. Some will be sent you. I do not think she will enter York River and leave the Virginia in her rear.

Directions have been given in reference to the completion of the battery at Harden's Bluff, and General Huger's attention called to all the points referred to in Colonel Cabell's letter. It would be better in some respects if the battery formed part of your command, but its supporting force, &c., must be drawn from the command of General Huger. I can learn nothing of "the two Mississippi companies promised," mentioned in your postscript to telegram of 17th.

Very respectfully, &c.,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 163.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
ASST. ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Yorktown, Va., March 19, 1862.

The following proclamation is published for the information of this army, and of all others concerned:

PROCLAMATION.

The President of the Confederate States having declared martial law in and over the counties of Elizabeth City, James City, York, Warwick, Gloucester, and Matthews, and the suspension of all civil jurisdiction therein, with certain enumerated exceptions, and Major-General Magruder, commanding the Army of the Peninsula, being charged with the due execution of said proclamation of martial law:

Now, therefore, all residents and sojourners within the counties aforesaid are hereby warned and notified of the said declaration of martial law, and will govern themselves accordingly. The following regulations of military discipline and police are established:

The distillation and sale, or either, of spirituous liquors of any kind is positively prohibited and will be promptly punished, and all establishments for the making or sale of the same are hereby suppressed.

All persons infringing or violating this prohibition will suffer such punishment as may be ordered by the sentence of court-martial or otherwise ordained by the military code.

Provost-marshals will be appointed at every post and camp in this department, who will be charged with the rigid enforcement of this order, and will institute strict search in order to the prompt detection, arrest, and punishment of all offenders.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NEAR BETHEL,
March 20, 1862.

General LEE, C. S. A.,
Commanding Army, &c.:

GENERAL: I am low down on the Warwick road (Langborne's Mill) and at Bethel, with the greater portion of my command. The weather, which was fine when the troops marched, is now bad, and the roads, which were almost impracticable in my rear and were getting good, are now

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becoming again very bad since the rain of last night. I came down in the conviction that the right flank of my operating forces on James River was secured by the success of the Virginia and would not care for the roads so much, but from all I learn and see here I am the more convinced than ever that the enemy will persevere in his designs up James River, and for the following reasons:

It will be greatly to their interest to keep such a ship as the Virginia confined to the Hampton Roads. This can be done if the Monitor, which, as I have learned since moving the troops, draws but 5 feet water, can be sent up James River, supported by an irresistible column, marching up the Peninsula, say 20,000 men, whilst 20,000 would remain to occupy the vicinity of Fort Monroe and Newport News.

Should the Virginia go outside of Fort Monroe and Newport News, the enemy would steam across the lower James River with his 20,000 and cut Norfolk off, whilst the other 20,000, supported by the Monitor, would eventually succeed in pushing their way up to Jamestown.

Should the Virginia remain in the Roads, no troops could be thrown across as far up as she could go, which is but a few miles, but the column below would support the land operations of the column above, and the whole would cross above, say at Jamestown Island or at Mulberry Point. The enemy is re-enforcing by every means in his power therefor his forces at Newport News and Fort Monroe. Two regiments are reported to have arrived yesterday, and the vedettes on the advanced water points report that some thirteen sailing transports were towed up the bay by steamers (tugs probably) yesterday, whilst I saw myself several sailing vessels in tow of steamers going up the day before. I think, therefore, that he is straining every nerve to put a large force on the Peninsula before the Virginia comes out, either to operate on James River, York River, or both, whilst his troops march up.

It seems to me, therefore, that the Virginia, if she cannot get at the Monitor—a conflict which it will be the interest of the country to prevent—ought so to station herself outside Fort Monroe as to intercept all re-enforcements of troops and to cut off further supplies. This course, if it can be pursued at once, might prevent the advance up by land, and would also prevent the crossing of troops in large numbers on the lower James River, as far up at least as the Virginia could go, since, if she could pass Fort Monroe once, she could return again to the Roads, if an attempt were made to cross troops in large numbers. By taking such a position the Virginia would also prevent an expedition of magnitude either up York or Rappahannock Rivers.

I think no time should be lost in sinking insurmountable obstacles in James River to prevent the Monitor from ascending. Nothing but positive physical obstructions will do against such ships. But the river would be worse than useless to this army if the obstructions were made high up, since there could be no means of transportation below such obstructions, the Monitor destroying such means. It is necessary therefore to block up the river at some strategic point, affording to this army the means of safely ascending James River from that point. Jamestown Island alone fulfills these conditions, as far as I know.

Would it not be well, therefore, to sink vessels of all kinds, loaded with stone, at once, for this purpose, across the channel there, and fortify the island and the commanding main-land strongly without delay? The last I am doing with all the means in my power; but for the former the means must come from Richmond. I presume that all the sail vessels, some of the older steamers, and all the canal-boats above Rich-

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mond would do it effectually. If done at all it should be done without the least delay, and by an engineer, civil or military, of great energy and understanding. I could hold Williamsburg then and Jamestown Island at least as long as Yorktown could hold out, which I hope would be a long time.

I think McClellan has shown his plan is to turn flanks by great detours by land and water. The falling back of our army from the Potomac gives him the power to detach largely, and I think he will never risk a defeat himself when he can devolve the risk of it upon some one of his subordinates.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Since writing the above I have received the following report from Colonel Crump, the correctness of which I have no reason to doubt:

HEADQUARTERS, GLOUCESTER POINT, *March* 20, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER:

GENERAL: The lieutenant commanding the picket in Matthews makes the following report: "That a fleet passed in the direction of Fort Monroe yesterday, composed as follows: Twenty-eight steamers, four floating batteries, twenty-six sails of different kinds, loaded with hay and a large number of horses."

I should be glad to hear the result of the firing heard in the Peninsula yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. A. CRUMP,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

I have also the honor to report that my lowest pickets say that the enemy were re-enforced at both Newport News and Old Point last night and the night before (during the night). They judge from the whistling of steamers and the sound of drums.

I am, sir, &c.,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NORFOLK, *March* 20, 1862.

Major-General MAGRUDER:

Nineteen steamers loaded with troops and nine schooners came down the bay at 8 o'clock yesterday evening to Old Point. Two gunboats went to sea. I have had no report from the post this morning, the weather being too misty to see the shipping at Old Point.

JAS. F. MILLIGAN,
Signal Officer.

ENGINEER BUREAU,
Richmond, March 20, 1862.

Lieut. HENRY T. DOUGLAS, P. A. C. S.,
In Charge of Defenses, Yorktown:

SIR: The almost impossibility of procuring axes has prevented me so far from honoring your requisition for 200.*

* * * * * * *

I still think the water battery should be abandoned at Yorktown,

*Some matters of detail omitted.

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for the reasons specified in a former letter, and because of the invulnerability of iron-clad vessels of proper build.

When you expressed your confidence in the ability of a 64-pounder to contend with an iron-clad vessel you were not aware that 180-pounder solid shot had been used at 20 yards' range for four hours without appreciable effect; at least such is the information I received here.

I would take occasion here to condemn, as a general system, small detached redoubts, although you might infer from what you see near Williamsburg that I am in favor of them. I was, when they were commenced, completely inexperienced, and acted under instructions. I now know and have known for some months past that the system is most defective, making a line equally strong it is true, but equally weak at the same time. When one small redoubt is carried, which can easily be done, the troops cease to have confidence in the whole line, and the defense, in consequence, is most defective.

My views I believe you know with regard to mobilizing the army, and having but few works, and those of a strong character and thoroughly flanked. There are certain inferior works of great utility, however, but they should generally be masked in the edge of woods and open in the rear; rifle pits, for instance, or positions for light artillery with a simple embankment in front. As you are doubtless excessively busy at present, and I know do not exactly agree with me on the subject of the intrenched camp, I propose to place that work under Captain Clarke, as well as the defenses of the Warwick River below Lee's Mill. From Mulberry Island, his present location, he can easily direct these works. I shall write at once to General Magruder on the subject, but before doing so thought it would be agreeable to you to learn of the proposed arrangement through the bureau.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief, Engineer Bureau.

NORFOLK, VA., *March* 21, 1862.

Major-General MAGRUDER:

The nineteen steamers and six schooners which arrived at Hampton Roads day before yesterday with troops went to sea this morning from Old Point about 11 o'clock a. m.

JAS. F. MILLIGAN,
Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Half-way House, near Bethel, March 21, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding C. S. Army, Richmond:

GENERAL: In consequence of the equinoctial storm, the exposure of the men in an advanced position without tents, the increasing impracticability of the roads between the line of Young's Mill and Harwood's Mill and that of Warwick River, and the very large re-enforcements of the enemy, as indicated by my previous reports, I ordered all the troops on the line of Langhorne's Mill and Bethel to resume their position on the line of Warwick River, except the Tenth Georgia Regiment and 300 cavalry left at Young's Mill, and Goggin's battalion and 200 cavalry

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left at Bethel, and Winston's regiment left at Harwood's Mill. The line of Warwick is being fortified rapidly by a large number of negroes.

The Virginia is expected out in a day or two. Her first object, it seems to me, ought to be certainly to prevent the passage of the enemy's transports and gunboats up James River, except the Ericsson (Monitor), which it is not expected she can prevent, as she draws very little water and can elude the Virginia.

I think the enemy may fear for Fort Monroe, but having such an immence force will endeavor to march up the Peninsula, and by aid of the Ericsson will endeavor to obtain Jamestown Island if he is continued to be opposed by a force so small as mine.

I presume McClellan cannot advance in consequence of the state of the roads and for other reasons. If it were possible, therefore, to throw 30,000 here from the army of the Manassas line, 20,000, making 30,000 in all with mine, with our knowledge of the country, we could crush the enemy, and perhaps with the assistance of the Virginia take Fort Monroe; and if Norfork should fall into the hands of the enemy in the mean time, with the guns in our batteries spiked, which I do not think at all probable, we could retake it with the aid of the Virginia perhaps, and vanquish or at least expel Burnside.

Not knowing what has taken place elsewhere I do not know if this can be done, that is, whether troops can be withdrawn from other points, but I presume that it could be, at least for a short time, and I have little doubt that I could be able to throw troops across Back River down opposite Hampton, and thus cut off the enemy now around Newport News from that place; but 30,000 men is the least that this ought to be attempted with, leaving out the necessary garrisons, some 4,000 men. Such large re-enforcements having already arrived of horses and men at Old Point and Newport News, as well as supplies of hay and provisions, the Virginia ought to first prevent the passage of a fleet of transports and gunboats up James River before she takes her place on the outside of Fort Monroe, as I recommended yesterday, and the sooner she is at her post at Sewell's Point the better, as the enemy may be ready now to send their vessels up James River, where she cannot follow them.

The present Secretary of War is so well acquainted with the localities here that I desire to have this letter laid before him.

I wrote the other day with respect to cavalry re-enforcements, the enemy having so large a preponderance in that arm. One of these companies is ready at Fredericksburg, being sent there to recruit. There are said to be some about Richmond, and Lieutenant-Colonel Goode wrote me of one large company already formed in a county the name of which I have already sent you (Buckingham County probably). My letter will explain itself.

I beg leave to recommend the arming of cavalry with lances and shotguns, if to be had. The former can be made by any carpenter and ordinary blacksmith in any neighborhood and rapidly and in any number, and in my opinion more efficient than the saber. Without the shotguns they would be as powerful in a charge as with them. They could be held in reserve until wanted.

If heavy re-enforcements are to be sent here I would like to know at once, that I may throw up fortifications at points which, if we should not want them ourselves, it is extremely important that the enemy should not hold, such as from Langhorne's Mill to Bethel, and from Young's to Harwood's Mill, which are almost impregnable if held by a sufficient number of troops, but entirely untenable unless so manned.

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The disposition of the artillery, the occupation of posts, and indeed my whole course depends entirely upon the number of troops which I may expect.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 21, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say that, in conformity with your request of the 14th instant, application was made to General Johnston to know if the Lunenburg Cavalry or any other companies of that arm could be spared for the purpose of re-enforcing you, and that he replied that it was utterly impossible, the proportion of cavalry in his department being already much too small to supply the wants of the service.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 22, 1862.

General J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 20th instant, and having to start to North Carolina to-morrow morning have but little time to reply.

The fleet in the Roads which you refer to has gone to sea, as I am informed, for the purpose probably of re-enforcing Burnside's or one of the other expeditions against the Southern coast. This will relieve you of immediate apprehension from this source.

With regard to obstructing the river, of course the lower down the better. This is now being done at Drewry's Bluff, some 7 or 8 miles below this city. It has no relation to your operations, however, but was commenced to meet the emergency occasioned by the appearance of the Monitor in Hampton Roads. An arrangement has been made to allow our vessels to pass the obstructions. Upon inquiry I am told that a sufficient number of hulks cannot be obtained to obstruct the river at any point without too seriously interfering with the supplies of your army and of this city.

A system of piling has been arranged by Captain Rives which promises to answer at least as good a purpose, and I will cause his immediate attention to be called to the question of obstructions at Jamestown Island or at such other point as in your opinion may be considered best.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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FREDERICKSBURG, VA.,
March 22, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Department of Northern Virginia:

SIR: I. You will relieve Major-General Holmes of his command, and direct him to report at Richmond for further orders.

II. You will detach two brigades of infantry and two companies of artillery, with orders to report to Major-General Holmes with the least delay at his headquarters in the field.

III. The troops when passing through Richmond will be reported to the Adjutant-General for any instructions which it may be needful to give them at that point.

Very respectfully, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 83. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Rapidan, March 23, 1862.

Under the orders of the President—

I. Maj. Gen. T. H. Holmes, commanding Aquia District, is relieved from the command of that district, and is assigned to duty temporarily with General Lee, and will report to the Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va., for further orders.

II. Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith is assigned to the command of the Aquia District, and will take such of his staff with him as he may deem necessary.

III. Brig. Gen. J. G. Walker, with his brigade and the company of artillery attached, is assigned to duty under Major-General Holmes, and will proceed to Richmond, Va., without delay and report to the Adjutant and Inspector General for further orders.

IV. Brig. Gen. C. M. Wilcox, with his brigade and company of artillery attached, with the exception of the Virginia regiment (Thirty-eighth Virginia), is assigned to duty with Major-General Holmes, and will report without delay to Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va., for further orders.

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 84. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Rapidan, March 23, 1862.

* * * * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. J. B. Kershaw will immediately assume command of the brigade formerly commanded by Brigadier-General Bonham.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

YORKTOWN, *March* 24, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH, *Secretary of War:*

The enemy are in very great force at Fort Monroe, Newport News,

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and between those places; not less, I think, than 35,000 men. Should he advance now he would carry all the strong points, and re-enforcements would be too late. Ten thousand detached from the Army of the Potomac now would defeat him—20,000 later may not do it—as McClellan cannot move his army in the present state of the roads from before Washington; as I am informed he transfers it to where he can advance. Should these 10,000 be required afterward by the Army of the Potomac they could be sent back. Now they should be here.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Yorktown, March 24, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

SIR: The late Secretary of War, the Hon. J. P. Benjamin, stated in a letter some ten or twelve days since that he would send me an unarmed regiment of 1,000 men, which I could arm here, and I have been expecting them every day, but they have not arrived.

I have to report that I have not troops to man the works on the shortest line, that of Warwick River, and I hope this regiment, which of course is not drilled, may be sent to me without further delay.

I cannot bring into the field more than 6,000 men to meet some 30,000, leaving insufficient garrisons in the works, and have not more than 10,000 in all for duty in the Peninsula and at Gloucester Point.

We shall make a glorious fight doubtless, but it will avail us nothing if the enemy carry our works.

The Virginia has not made her appearance, and the enemy may take advantage of her absence, as the Monitor draws, it is reported, only 5 feet, whilst she draws 22½ feet. The Virginia can therefore be easily eluded by the Monitor, and the latter pass up James River.

I would like to be informed when the Virginia will again come out.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, March 24, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Army, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say in reply to that portion of your telegram of yesterday which relates to the non-arrival of the re-enforcements promised you, that though the order for the movement of Col. Thomas R. R. Cobb's Legion to the Peninsula was sent to Norfolk prior to that directing that General Howell Cobb's brigade be forwarded to Goldsborough, N. C., the latter first reached General Huger, and the Legion moved to Carolina with General Cobb's command. He instructs me to say, however, that orders have been issued for the Fourteenth Alabama Regiment, Colonel Judge, to proceed to join you in lieu of the Cobb Legion. The Twenty-sixth Alabama, Colonel

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Smith, has been previously ordered to you, both being now in this city.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK, VA.,
March 24, 1862.

Maj. Gen. R. E. LEE, *Commanding:*

SIR: I telegraphed this morning to inform you that some twenty steamers, loaded with troops, came down the bay last evening. They brought large re-enforcements, and immediately commenced to disembark the troops.

Guarding the extent of country, front and rear, that I do, and divided as it is by rivers, I feel weak at all points, and cannot concentrate troops rapidly.

I omitted to mention that two light batteries accompanied the troops sent from Suffolk to Goldsborough, Captain McIntosh's battery (his was the eleventh company of the First South Carolina Regiment, Colonel Hamilton's) and a battery attached to General Howell Cobb's brigade. The field guns on the Roanoke were not reported to me, and I gave no orders about them.

Brig. Gen. Carter L. Stevenson has been ordered to Suffolk in command of Fourth Brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

HARWOOD'S, *March* 24, 1862.

Capt. HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I inclose the above [following]. There is no doubt the enemy are here in force, and, though it may not be reasonable that they will tell their designs, yet they have not come for nothing. I shall hold everything ready to move on orders.

Very respectfully, yours,

JOHN A. WINSTON,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

COTTAGE HOME, *March* 24, 1862.

SIR: The re-enforcements of the enemy that arrived at Old Point yesterday, and encamped in Sinclair's field and Dr. Ham's field, extend as far as the eye can observe toward Hampton. The force is immense—entirely out of my power to estimate. A lieutenant and 3 men have just left my house. I was informed by the lieutenant they are from Manassas, and intend an early advance up the Peninsula; at least such was the inference impressed upon my mind from his conversation. He remarked that the evacuation of Manassas only shifted the battle to this point, and that the people would suffer thereby.

In great haste and greater trouble, I am, yours, truly,

CHARLES COLLINS.

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[Indorsements.]

Colonel WINSTON:

SIR: I have the honor to inclose the above, being a true copy of Mr. Collins' letter addressed to Major Phillips.

The picket reported that twenty-four steamers came down the bay yesterday and proceeded to Old Point.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN W. PULLER,
Captain, Commanding Post.

Mr. Collins is perfectly reliable.

B. F. HUDGINS,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Yorktown, March 25, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

SIR: It is the unanimous opinion of twenty of the principal officers of my command, assembled together this evening for a council of war, that in view of the known forces of the enemy the best positions which can be assumed by this army are untenable without heavy re-enforcements—at least 10,000 immediately, and 10,000 more as soon as they can possibly be sent.

It is their further opinion that in falling back from the line of Yorktown and Mulberry Point we yield the best line for the defense of Richmond, and that if the Peninsula is lost Norfolk must necessarily fall, and the Virginia (Merrimac) must be captured unless she can pass the guns of Old Point, and the chances of fitting up gunboats on York River are given up. We lose the fine fortifications on this line, and destroy the confidence of our army in the safety of Richmond.

It is the opinion of the council that if the re-enforcements asked are promised by the Government to this army Yorktown should be held to the last, awaiting their arrival; but if re-enforcements are not to be sent, then Yorktown should be abandoned, with a view to save the garrison from certain capture after the enemy shall have penetrated our second line of defense (Warwick River line) and after the enemy shall have ascended the river with their iron-clad steamers and cut off communication by water.

If the Government considers it a military necessity to hold Yorktown under these circumstances it will be defended to the last extremity.

I have the honor to submit the above, and remain, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I give the result of the council of war in the language in which it was expressed and agreed to.

[Indorsement.]

MARCH 26, 1862.

I concur fully in the opinion that the re-enforcements asked for are absolutely necessary for the successful defense of this Peninsula against

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an advance of the forces of the enemy, said now to be assembled at Newport News and vicinity and Old Point.

L. McLAWS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

YORKTOWN, *March* 25, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I beg leave urgently to request that you will order all the cavalry which can possibly be spared to this department. Cobb's Legion, which was promised to me, has been ordered to Goldsborough, and I am therefore most inadequately furnished with that arm of the service, and will be entirely overmastered by the enemy, who are said to have 1,600 well equipped.

The accounts of the very large forces at Old Point are corroborated this morning. Should they advance by the York road and attack Yorktown and Ship Point at the same time I could offer little or no resistance except on the Warwick River line, as I have not troops for the left flank below Yorktown, though it is admirably fortified.

Please do not delay in sending the re-enforcements, if it be possible. If the attack should be on Yorktown, the Virginia should by all means be made to pass Old Point and disperse the attacking fleet. If this is determined on, please let me know. She will thus gain a great and substantial victory. Urge this upon the Navy Department and the President.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, VA., *March* 25, 1862.

General J. B. MAGRUDER, *Yorktown:*

We are making every possible exertion to re-enforce you. Two regiments of infantry and the cavalry of the Wise Legion have been ordered to you, and we will endeavor to send other forces.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 25, 1862.

General B. HUGER,
Commanding at Norfolk:

GENERAL: It seems certain from the reports received that the enemy is assembling in great force at Old Point Comfort. Whether he will move against Norfolk or Richmond nothing is yet disclosed. Should the former be his point of attack, re-enforcements from the Army of the Peninsula and from troops concentrating here will be dispatched to your support. You must therefore prepare to receive them and determine the points to which they will be directed. Watch vigilantly the movements of the enemy and endeavor to discover his plans. On the

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contrary, should Richmond be the object of his attack and his route be by the Peninsula, you must throw across James River at a point to reach his front as large a force as can be safely withdrawn from the defense of Norfolk. It is probable a feint will be made against one city, while the attack will be against the other, and great care and judgment must be exercised not to be deceived. You must therefore immediately look to all your defenses, organize the troops to hold them, mobilize the remainder to move at a moment's warning, should they not be required to oppose the enemy in the lines around Norfolk. You will have also to arrange means of transportation should it be necessary to cross your troops over James River.

The infantry, it is suggested, might be sent by railroad to City Point and ferried over by steamers. Artillery could be crossed lower down, from Carter's Wharf to Grove's Wharf, unless the enemy's gunboats prevent it; but as to the best points and means you must judge, and make such preparations under both contingencies as are necessary.

Keep me advised of the preparations and movements of the enemy as far as you can discover, and also of your opinion as to the object he has in view.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 25, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army in Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: The President desires to know with what force you could march to re-enforce the Army of the Peninsula or Norfolk, which are now threatened by the enemy assembling in great numbers, according to the reports received, at Old Point Comfort. It seems probable that the troops concentrating there are drawn from the army of General McClellan. Whether it is intended to move against Norfolk or Richmond there is yet nothing to determine. But from the accounts received nothing less than 20,000 or 30,000 men will be sufficient, with the troops already in position, successfully to oppose them. It will be necessary, therefore, for you to organize a part of your troops to hold your present line, and to prepare the remainder to move to this city, to be thrown on the point attacked.

The object of the President is to prepare you for a movement which now appears imperative, as no troops are available but those of your army to meet the enemy concentrating on the coast.

As soon as something more definite can be learned you will be informed, and should you receive a dispatch saying "Move at once," you will understand that you are to repair immediately to this city, where you will be informed to what point you are to direct your course. Such arrangements as you deem necessary for the transportation and subsistence of your troops on their march you are desired to make. Every facility that can be given here to the same end will be prepared.

This is sent by a special messenger, to insure security and dispatch.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 166. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE PENINSULA, ASSISTANT ADJT. GEN.'S OFFICE, *Yorktown, March* 25, 1862.

Williamsburg is hereby declared to be under martial law. It was presumed to have been included in the proclamation extending martial law over James City County.

By command of Major-General Magruder:

J. B. EUSTIS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Your several telegrams of yesterday and previous dates were received. The information forwarded by you, derived from the signal office at Norfolk, was transmitted by General Huger. It is unnecessary for you to repeat in detail such dispatches; the substance will be sufficient, or your opinion of the facts related.

It seems certain that a large force of the enemy is accumulating at Old Point Comfort, no doubt with a purpose of attacking either Norfolk or Richmond, but which of these points he may select, or what line of approach he may choose, I have as yet heard nothing to enable me to decide. Until some conclusion can be drawn as to his point of attack it would be manifestly improper to accumulate at either the army to oppose him. Measures, however, have been taken to throw into the Peninsula the available troops from Norfolk in case the enemy move against your line, and it will be necessary for you to be prepared to reenforce Norfolk in the event of the attack being upon that city. All the boats on James River are ordered to be prepared to ferry across the troops, and troops are being concentrated in this city to be moved to either point that may be threatened.

It will no doubt be the policy of the enemy to disguise his intention by threatening one point while preparing to attack the other, and the utmost care and judgment should be exercised to ascertain his real design. You will use every means in your power to obtain information on this point, and communicate every material fact tending in your opinion to throw light upon the subject, with your own inferences from such facts.

Assuming that the enemy will advance up the Peninsula to Richmond, and supposing that their boats may be able to force a passage by the batteries on York and James Rivers, they will be in a position, should they land on the Pamunkey on one side and about the Chickahominy on the other, to intercept your retreat, and will have turned the line of your land defenses. You must take measures to guard against such a catastrophe, and be prepared in such event to throw your whole force behind the Chickahominy, where a stand must be made. For this purpose you will cause examinations to be made of suitable positions on the lines of the Pamunkey and James Rivers above the water batteries, to be occupied by you in such force as to delay the landing and advance of the enemy while you are withdrawing the body of your army behind the Chickahominy. In selecting these positions you will ascertain the best wharves and landings on each river above your river

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batteries, and take measures in the event of the enemy's passing those batteries to destroy those wharves and impede the landing of the enemy in every way, and to display such a force opposite the wharves and landings which the enemy may approach as to delay his advance while the body of your army is being withdrawn behind the proposed new line. Of course you will understand that these positions to cover the withdrawal of your army are only to be occupied by you in the event of the danger of the enemy's passing the river batteries becoming so imminent as in your judgment to render it necessary.

In the mean time you will only select suitable places to be occupied by you in the happening of the contingency above mentioned, and make such preparations as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes above indicated. All the information received here leads me to believe that the troops of the enemy now being concentrated at Old Point are drawn from the army that has heretofore been threatening the lines lately occupied by the Army of the Potomac under General Johnston.

I am, general, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Your telegram of to-day to the honorable Secretary of War has been referred to me for a reply.

I would remark, in commencement, that no secrecy, either as to your movements or views, can be maintained if you make them the subject of telegraphic dispatches. Experience shows that information transmitted by telegraph becomes known, and is even reported in the public journals. I would advise, therefore, that all matters important to be concealed should be made the subject of a letter. In the present instance I fear both your plans and condition will become public.

My letter of this morning will explain to you the views taken as regards the position and designs of the enemy, and the measures contemplated to meet the emergency should it be discovered that his intention is to advance by way of the Peninsula.

As far as I am able to judge, your strongest line of defense is that between Yorktown and Mulberry Point, which I believe had been adopted by you, and I think can best be held as long as your flanks are not turned by the passage of the enemy up either river. If you abandon that line I know no better position you could assume on the Peninsula.

I would advise that in assembling a council of war it should consist of only a few of the principal officers of your command. The disadvantages of a large council will be apparent to you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

P. S.—Your telegram relative to the detailed men at "Glass Island" has been received, but is not understood, no one here knowing anything of "Glass Island."

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ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., March 26, 1862.

Captain TAYLOR, *Aide-de-Camp:*

The following is a statement of the means of transportation on James River:

Steamer Northhampton; capacity, 800 men and baggage.
Steamer Shultz; capacity, 400 men and baggage.
Steamer Junaluska, tug.
Steamer David Currie, tug.
Schooner North Wind; capacity, 300 men and baggage.
Schooner Delaphine Hubert; capacity, 300 men and baggage.
Schooner James Buchanan; capacity, 300 men and baggage.
Schooner Rebecca; capacity, 300 men and baggage.
Ark Dick Bownee; capacity, 500 men and baggage.
Ark Baty; capacity, 400 men and baggage.
Total 3,300.

Also lighters and barges, which, carrying baggage, will increase the capacity of the vessels to carry troops 25 per cent.

The private steamer West Point, capacity 800 men, is undergoing repairs, and cannot be chartered until, say, Thursday.

All these vessels are directed to be held ready for immediate use. Capt. Kensey Johns, acting quartermaster, is specially in charge of them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
LARKIN SMITH,
Acting Quartermaster-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding Department, &c., Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say, in relation to that portion of your letter of the 24th instant concerning the removal of the two light batteries with the troops sent from your command to North Carolina, that there are in camp near this city several artillery companies awaiting to be furnished with guns; that he has done all in his power to hasten their equipment, and that when ready, unless there is a more urgent demand for them elsewhere, one or more will be sent to replace those taken from you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Rapidan, March 26, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *C. S. Army:*

GENERAL: Your letter of yesterday, communicating the President's instructions to me to hold the troops of this army in readiness to march and asking what force I can bring to the Peninsula or Norfolk, is just received.

The force here, excluding arrivals of men returned from furlough

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and recruits, arrived since the 22d instant, amounts to about 23,000; that near Fredericksburg, according to Major-General Holmes, to about 12,000. Major-General Jackson has been falling back for a few days before a greatly superior force. His strength on the 28th February was about 5,000.

If summoned to Richmond, I shall leave on this frontier only such a force as is now employed on outpost duty, for the mere purpose of masking the movement. That will enable me to take to Richmond at least 25,000 men, after the return of Brigadier-General Jones, just ordered with about 5,000 men to the Blue Ridge, to support General Jackson.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
March 26, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: On Tuesday, 25th instant, I went toward Manassas, and derived information respecting the enemy from a Mr. Butler, whose brother lives near Manassas, and from a Mr. Davidson, who was arrested as a spy by the Yankees and treated very badly, his horse's tail and mane being shaved.

General French, with a brigade, is at Manassas. General Sumner was expected to cross Bull Run on Tuesday. Two of the regiments are from Pennsylvania; others from New York City. The cavalry is estimated at 2,000; the horses look very well. Soldiers are in good spirits, saying they do not expect another battle will be fought. They estimate their reserves along the railroad and at Alexandria at 200,000. The late retreat was owing to the difficulty of getting food. They are working very slowly at Bull Run Bridge, apparently for effect. No other repairs are going on.

They expect Banks continually, and all the soldiers now at Manassas look to be removed to another point.

Pickets extend a mile or so from Manassas. Scouting parties come to Broad Run. They are searching the houses for concealed Southern property. They say they will arrest all who gave money to the army or had sick soldiers at their houses last summer. Their health is, and, as they say, has been, good. They have a great deal of artillery with them. The negroes come in in shoals, and are immediately told to go to the rear.

The above information is up to Monday, the 24th instant.

A command, size unknown, marched up the railroad this morning with drums. They were 3 miles above Bristoe.

Very respectfully,

W. STODDERT.

[Indorsement.]

MARCH 27, 1862.

Respectfully submitted for the information of the President. The writer is the brother of Major-General Ewell. His residence is about 8 miles from Manassas, in the direction of Warrenton.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

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HEADQUARTERS CAMP MCINTOSH,
March 26, 1862—4 p. m.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: At a point about 7 miles below this a large column of infantry was seen on the march this way at 2 p. m. Captain Gaither says he counted six regiments without seeing either end of the column; six regimental colors were counted. They were marching across the fields parallel to the railroad and in view of it. I immediately sent the First Virginia Cavalry (Jones') down to observe the enemy and report, and have not since heard. It is probable they will camp near Weaversville to-night.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. FOURTH AND FIFTH BRIGS., DEPT. OF NORFOLK,
Suffolk, Va., March 26, 1862.

Col. S. S. ANDERSON, *A. A. G., Department of Norfolk, Norfolk, Va.:*

COLONEL: I have examined the country surrounding Suffolk with a view to the defense of it and the railroads.

The battery and barrier referred to in Brigadier-General Randolph's memorandum are nearly completed, and the guns will be mounted as soon as a company shall be designated for it. Captain Poor informs me there is one (Captain Otey's) in Richmond without a battery that General Randolph thought could be obtained. It should be manned as soon as possible.

The material for the bridge over the Nansemond and its western branch, communication between the First, Second, and Fourth Brigades, is nearly ready, and that over the branch will be constructed in a few days.

The approaches from the south are so easy, and the country so open, that with the troops now here the enemy, if in force, could not be held in check for any length of time. I respectfully ask that the commanding general will urge upon the Department the vital importance of sending a considerable re-enforcement here at the earliest possible moment. All of the cavalry in this Fourth Brigade—about 40 effective men—are now used as vedettes and couriers between this place and Harvey's Neck, on the Sound. The distances to the several landings on the Chowan below Wyanoke—Colonel Armistead's camp and battery (I do not think the enemy would ascend the river that far)—are so short that it is of the utmost importance that intelligence of the first appearance of the advance of the enemy up the Sound should be communicated as rapidly as possible. To insure this and to scout the country thoroughly to provide against spies in the guise of fishmongers and traders (I find there are many now passing, but shall stop it at once) the cavalry force there is not sufficient.

The Fifth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth North Carolina Militia (mere fragments), now on duty in the Fourth and Fifth Brigades, have not all been mustered into service. Will you designate some one to perform that duty?

I shall leave to-morrow to inspect the troops and defenses on the Roanoke and those in the Fourth Brigade south of this place.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. L. STEVENSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 69. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, March* 26, 1862.

* * * * * * *

VII. The military department of Henrico, under the command of Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, is extended to include the city of Petersburg and the adjoining and surrounding country to the distance of 10 miles.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 699. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA, *Yorktown, March* 26, 1862.

* * * * * * *

XXI. The women and children in Yorktown are directed to leave the place without delay.

Brigadier-General Rains will cause this order to be executed.

* * * * * * *

By order of Major-General Magruder:

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

YORKTOWN, *March* 27, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: The enemy is just reported, by Colonel Cumming, at Young's Mill, to be advancing in great force on the Warwick road. He is advancing with all his forces on three roads, having been reported to be at Sykes' Corner, as well as above Bethel. Please answer by telegraph.

By holding the works in front of Williamsburg the re-enforcements might be in time. If he carry our line on the Warwick River we shall lose a part of our artillery.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

YORKTOWN, *March* 27, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

The following dispatch received to-day from Norfolk:

NORFOLK, *March* 27, 1862.

General MAGRUDER:

The Yankees have received large re-enforcements at Fort Monroe and Newport News the last three days. It would be hard to estimate how many. The town of Hampton and all the available beach to Fort Monroe is occupied by encampments; also Newport News and 1 mile below there; also two encampments between Newport News and Hampton and the north shore. I think myself the re-enforcements cannot be far from 30,000, if not more.

Great activity prevails. Vessels are arriving and departing continually, night and day.

JAS. F. MILLIGAN,
Signal Officer.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 89. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Rapidan, March 27, 1862.*

Brig. Gen. Charles W. Field, P. A. C. S., will report for duty to Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith, commanding Aquia District.

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 27, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Comdg. Department of the Peninsula, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 24th instant to the honorable Secretary of War has been referred to General Lee, who directs me to say that the Fourteenth Regiment Alabama Volunteers left this city this morning for Yorktown to join your command, and that the unarmed regiment from the same State (Twenty-sixth) will leave here to-morrow, also to join you, and by you be armed.

The general instructs me to add that he has been informed by the Secretary of the Navy that the Virginia is now about ready to come out, but the exact day when she will move is not known to him.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ENGINEER BUREAU,
Richmond, March 27, 1862.

Capt. JOHN J. CLARKE, P. A. C. S.,
Engineer in Charge Mulberry Island Point:

DEAR SIR: It seems almost needless to urge upon you the vigorous prosecution of the works at Mulberry Point, but I do so at the suggestion of General Lee, who thinks it a matter of paramount importance. I received to-day a telegram from General Magruder to the effect that he had directed you to place the 42 and 68 pounders in barbette in the work surrounding Crafford's house. In this, from the lights before me, I should think the general probably right. The work on the point can then be prosecuted untrammeled by guns in position.

I sent you to-day 1,000 sand bags, and you will receive with this letter the first installment of bolts for the casemate battery. I have been trying in vain, so far, to procure wrought-iron protection for the embrasures, but think that I have succeeded to-day in making a plan and procuring flat-bar railroad iron from the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company which will be perfectly satisfactory. A tracing will be sent to you to-morrow. I shall write a note this evening to Colonel Gorgas, requesting him to send you immediately a 6.4-inch rifle gun, 64-pounder columbiad pattern, with barbette carriage pintle-block, which is here on hand complete. One casemate carriage will be finished this week and five the next, if promises may be relied on.

General Lee is particularly desirous that all your unmounted guns should be mounted immediately, and in the present state of affairs I do not think you can do better than to mount them all in the covering works around Crafford's house. Of that, however, you will probably be the best judge.

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At Harden's Bluff General Lee is particularly desirous that two guns at least should be mounted for rear protection, and that the guns on the water front should be well traversed. He also suggests that a few large guns might be arranged on the bluff outside of and protected by the fort. Is it possible to do anything in that way? Separation and scattering of the guns, if possible, he considers the best disposition.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief Engineer Bureau.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 27, 1862.

Col. L. B. NORTHROP,
Commissary-General, &c.:

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that 10,000 troops have been ordered and are expected to arrive in this city. A portion may be here to-night. It will be necessary to make provision at once for them.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Rapidan, March 27, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond:*

SIR: I received yesterday a letter from you dated March 25, in which you give me the President's orders to be prepared to move to Richmond, on the way to the Peninsula or Norfolk, with all the force I can, after proper dispositions on this line.

This afternoon I received by telegraph an order to send 10,000 men instead of the effective force named in your letter.

I beg leave, with all deference, to suggest to the President the expediency of transferring to the point about to be attacked the whole available force of this department. In making such a movement I would leave only such a line of outposts as would serve to mask it.

The division of the troops of this department made by the telegram of this afternoon leaves on this line a force too weak to oppose an invasion, and furnishes to the threatened point a re-enforcement too small to command success. For the sake of expedition I have ordered about 7,500 men from this vicinity by railroad to move to-morrow and 2,500 to be transported in the same manner from Fredericksburg.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

P. S.—Major-General Ewell's division is on the Rappahannock, near the bridge; the cavalry, about 1,100, beyond the river.

The divisions of Major-General Longstreet, Brig. Gens. D. R. Jones, Early, and D. H. Hill, ten brigades, averaging near 2,000 men, are in this vicinity.

The corps of General Sumner was supposed to be at Cedar Run at 2 o'clock to-day, 12 miles from the Rappahannock.

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MARCH 28—7 a. m.

I inclose reports from Brigadier-General Stuart on the subject.

The letter from General Jackson was received this morning.*

We cannot win without concentrating. Should my suggestion be approved say so by telegraph, and the movement will be made with all expedition from Fredericksburg and this place.

J. E. J.

The troops ordered to Richmond are Early's division and Toombs' brigade; their artillery, four batteries, are ordered to march.

J. E. J.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
March 27, 1862—4 p. m.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The enemy's column has been in motion since 12, but at five minutes past 2 had not crossed the run near Warrenton Junction. They have baggage, say 450 wagons; scarcely any cavalry visible then. They are spreading about on Cedar Run to find fords. Colonel Jones says, "Undoubtedly they are in strong force." They have not yet left the railroad far, and so far as movements now indicate they are marching along the general direction of the railroad. Radford has been ordered to retire by way of Warrenton Springs, burning bridges, and to halt on the south bank Rappahannock. The direction of this movement is not and will not be fully developed till they cross Cedar Run and have proceeded 3 miles this side. Their progress must be very slow.

In haste,

J. E. B. STUART.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS, *Bealeton*—4.15 p. m.

DEAR GENERAL: I did not ask for another regiment. I think I have enough to make a graceful retreat; also two mountain howitzers, which I may send back this evening. The order referred to was, I think, for you to move toward Fredericksburg. A drummer-boy just caught, who is very communicative. He says Sumner's corps is in force in front of us, and that his corps and Banks' are to form a junction at and march on Gordonsville. He says they have three batteries of artillery. He says Sumner has four divisions—Heintzelman's, Blenker's, Richardson's, and ———'s, three brigades to a division. He says McClellan is still at Fairfax, with heavy reserves of artillery and troops, "waiting to see where we are going to make a stand."

Please send this on to General Johnston. He also says that there is talk of McDowell going to the West and that Burnside has had re-enforcements.

[Not signed.]

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Bealeton, March 27, [1862]—8.30 p. m.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The enemy has camped at Warrenton Junction. He made a great to-do crossing and recrossing Cedar Run, firing artillery at a

* Of March 27. It will be printed in Series I, Vol. XII, Part III.

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few vedettes, and the like, and has actually made 3 miles with his advance guard. I begin to think this is a mere demonstration, but when I receive Colonel Jones' report I may be able to tell, and better to-morrow. To-night I send around toward the enemy's rear to find out, if possible, the real force. They have a great number of wagons.

Colonel Jones' has arrived, but brings nothing but confirmation of previous reports. He says the enemy seemed disposed to make a display, and marched so as to give him a review of 10,000 men at least. The circumstances of the drummer's arrest, since brought to light, throw some suspicion on his information, and it ought therefore to be received with allowance. He may have been sent over to humbug us. I heard from Warrenton this evening, and from Colonel Munford also. He writes from Middleburg. I inclose his letter. He is doing admirable service there.

The dispatches I have heretofore sent started in ample time to reach you before 10 p. m. I would be glad if you would give orders not to have my dispatches delivered to you till morning, as messengers are too uncertain for me to make the calculation at this distance.

Most respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Sub-inclosure.]

NEAR MIDDLEBURG, *March* 27, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. E. B. STUART,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the enemy are making another march and in a different direction. I saw a gentleman yesterday morning who had been in the enemy's camp, and reported that they had moved up very hurriedly toward Snickersville, but they have countermarched, and are now making for Aldie. I saw their trains yesterday evening, and last night took 30 men and scouted over near them—Union—where I captured the prisoner I send you. He was dressed in citizen's clothes, had hid his uniform, Enfield rifle, &c., and was tampering with the negroes. I will send you the man to-day at whose house he was staying. I hope he will be treated as a spy. They are about 7,000 strong and have an immense train. I understand twenty of their wagons are loaded with ammunition. The scamp Geary commands the advance. General Abercrombie's brigade at Mountville, and it is reported that Banks is there with him. I will endeavor to find something definite of their destination to-day. They deceived me yesterday or I could have burnt Carter's Bridge. Their advance guard had not been there an hour before we were at or in sight of the bridge.

Very respectfully,

THOMAS T. MUNFORD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Detachment Second Virginia Cavalry.

RAPIDAN, *March* 28, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH, *Secretary of War:*

It is necessary to move public property from Gordonsville. The commissary-general forbids our sending it to Richmond. Where shall it go?

J. E. JOHNSTON.

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RICHMOND, VA., *March* 28, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Rapidan:

Use your own discretion in the matter. General Lee thinks, however, that they had better not be sent here.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 28, 1862—1 a. m.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Rapidan, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter by Mr. Turner of the 26th has been received, together with the reports of Mr. Stoddert and General Stuart.

In consequence of the information conveyed by your telegraphic dispatch (No. 50) that the enemy was reported in force in front of your line beyond Rappahannock Bridge, coupled with his reported strength in the above-named reports, you have been desired in a dispatch just sent to use your discretion in complying with the requisition for troops, as it was feared your line could not be weakened and held, and no stronger ground is known to me between your position and Richmond than that you occupy.

Since then your dispatch (No. 55) has been received, recommending that you repair here with the largest number of troops named in my letter of the 25th, viz, 30,000, from which it is inferred that you apprehend no attack upon your line. If this inference is correct, you can commence the movement of your troops to this place. The reason the President desired in my first telegraphic dispatch that only about half the troops you might designate for re-enforcing our right flank should be sent was to have a portion in position here to throw where required, while the balance might follow if necessary; for although the enemy is menacing both Norfolk and Portsmouth, he has not yet disclosed his real design further than by advancing up the Peninsula as far as Bethel, but in what force is not yet known. You can therefore, with this understanding of the case, proceed to forward the desired re-enforcements in part or whole, as in your judgment they can be spared from the defense of your line. It is unnecessary to observe that the baggage of the detachment should be as light as possible.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 28, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 27th, by Lieutenant Washington, your aide-de-camp, has been received. The reports of Generals Jackson and Stuart indicate a large force in your front. Should the enemy seize Gordonsville and Charlottesville and advance his right wing to Staunton the whole of Western Virginia, our lines of communication through

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Tennessee, and the armies of Generals Edward Johnson, Heth, and Marshall will be cut off. The enemy is apparently advancing to your present position, and if your force is weakened so as to entail the loss of the line of the Rapidan it will carry with it the consequences above stated.

When the proposition was made to you to co-operate with a large part of your forces in the defense of the Peninsula or Norfolk, as the case might be, it was under the supposition that the enemy could not advance, which would therefore require in your present line, for the period during which you were expected to be absent, but little more than an army of observation. If such be the fact, then you will move with all the force you think it safe to withdraw. But as a mode of expressing to you the limit which it is intended to affix I will cite the remark of the President, that the loss of the Central road and communication with the valley at Staunton would be more injurious than the withdrawal from the Peninsula and the evacuation of Norfolk. You are aware that between your present position and Richmond there is no defensive line so strong as that you now hold, and this consideration gives to that line an additional value.

The President is not at all reluctant to take the responsibility of any movement of the propriety of which he is confident, and it is only designed to ask of you that judgment which your better information enables you more safely to render. He desires you to exercise that judgment and give him the benefit of your views. In the mean time, if doubtful of the course to be pursued, he invites you to a full conference at this place, where the latest intelligence is collected.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 28, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. E. COLSTON,
Commanding, &c., near Smithfield, Va.:

GENERAL: In order to enable you to carry out the instructions which you will receive from Major-General Huger in relation to the crossing of your brigade to the Peninsula to re-enforce General Magruder a boat will be sent to Stone House Wharf, on James River, and held subject to your order.

It is not intended that you shall cross the river until you have positive evidence that a demonstration is being made against General Magruder. The move on the Peninsula may be a feint and the real attack be on Norfolk.

You will do all in your power to keep yourself accurately advised of what transpires on the Peninsula, and should there be any positive indications of his moving in force in that direction you will cross, and report to General Magruder with all dispatch. Great care and judgment must be exercised to prevent being deceived as to the real intent of the enemy, and much rests on your discretion and decision.

Inform General Magruder of your position and ability to join him when actually necessary.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

(Copy sent to General Huger.)

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HEADQUARTERS,
Jamestown, March 28, 1862.

Col. B. S EWELL:

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to report that we have of heavy artillery, including all the new recruits, about 400 men, and only have 80 percussion muskets besides what the militia have; therefore, we want 120 to arm one-half of the heavy artillery. We only have 4,000 cartridges for muskets. I shall be on the alert for the enemy. The flying artillery company under Captain Jordan are 100 strong and the militia about 20 men only, so that we have 520 men on the island in all. Captain Jordan lacks 30 horses for his light artillery.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

HILL CARTER,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 168. HDQRS. ARMY OF THE PENINSULA, *Lee's Farm, near Lee's Mill, March* 28, 1862.

The enemy is at length advancing. We shall fight him on the line of Warwick River. Already he is about to occupy Young's Mill. The commanding general is aware that every man will do his duty. He therefore gives these few general directions:

1st. Hereafter, until further orders, three days' cooked provisions will be kept in the haversacks and hard bread be drawn instead of flour.

2d. The arms of all descriptions will be put in the most perfect order and kept so. A full supply of ammunition, dry and in perfect order, will be kept always on hand by every corps. Commanding officers will deposit near the fighting ground of their regiment any surplus supply of ammunition which they may have, so as to get at it conveniently. Additional supplies are at Williamsburg and Yorktown. In sending for these, commanding officers will be careful in every case to state the caliber and kind of arm for which it is required, and ordnance officers will issue without waiting for the approval of the commanding general.

Each man will take care to aim well, fire low, and bring his man. When fighting in the woods regimental and company officers will see that the men are extended at considerable intervals and so kept, taking advantage of natural obstacles. The disposition of men is generally to huddle together, in consequence of which it is difficult to form a regular line of skirmishers and the line is not sufficiently extended.

3d. Commanders of all infantry corps serving with artillery must always designate a sufficient number of the infantry to protect the artillery, and in all marches, whether to the front or rear, these commanders will place artillery in the intervals between the infantry, so that the infantry can fully protect them.

In marching on a narrow road there will always be one or two pieces of artillery in front, preceded by infantry, and one or two pieces in rear, followed by infantry. Cavalry, when in column on the road, must be in front and rear, the larger portion in front. If attacked in retreat, the cavalry which brings up the rear and the infantry which protects the artillery must move out of the road a little to allow the artillery to fire at the enemy and stop the pursuit. Should the enemy's cavalry charge upon the rear of a column with a view of capturing the artillery, the infantry must form a square or a circle to protect it, coming to a charge bayonet, and firing when necessary.

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Commanding officers when retreating must look particularly to their rear and to the artillery there stationed. As the enemy is clothed with more uniformity than our men, and generally in darker clothes, and as many of our regiments may come to whom badges cannot be issued, it is ordered that all badges now worn by our men be abolished, and none will hereafter be worn unless further ordered.

The men are reminded that, our forces not being equal to the enemy's, it will be necessary to remove them from the front to the rear and from the right to the left, withdrawing them from battle in one place to engage them in battle at another, and therefore their movements in withdrawing from battle should be deliberate and calm, holding themselves in readiness to repel any attack that may be made upon them while withdrawing to the rear, marching to the front, or moving to the right or left.

Every night after a battle the commanders of companies must look to the condition of the arms and ammunition of their men, causing the first to be thoroughly cleaned and a supply of the latter to be issued, at which time short and concise reports should be made to the commanding general through the proper channels.

By command of Major-General Magruder:

A. S. DICKINSON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 29, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding Department, Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th instant,* and to say that he is fully aware of the impediments to a rapid concentration of troops within your department, and also of your inability to render assistance to others by a permanent detachment of any part of your force. General Magruder was apprehensive of an attack by the enemy in force, and should it prove that this is his real design, the brigade of General Colston was to cross James River to his assistance. Until the intention of the enemy is positively known the order is not to be executed. Special instructions were sent to General C. direct to this effect on yesterday, and a copy of the same forwarded to you.

As regards the numerous permits to raise companies, &c., and the injurious effects of the same, the general instructs me to say that no new permits are being given by the Secretary, and that it is hoped that such action will be taken by Congress as will prevent the retirement from the service of those regiments whose term is about to expire.

The general commanding directs me to add that similar instructions to those of General Colston have been given General Magruder in the event that the real attack should be on the Norfolk side.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

* Not found.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 29, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 28th, relative to the promise of the Secretary of War to send you an unarmed regiment of 1,000 men and the arrival at Yorktown of the two Alabama regiments, has been received. These were the only troops which were here and available. I am fully alive to the importance of increasing your command, and all that is possible is being done in this way. General Wilcox's brigade leaves City Point to-day for the Peninsula to join you. As regards the brigade of General Colston, it was not intended that he should move until there was positive evidence that the intention of the enemy was to attack you in force. Full instructions to that effect have been forwarded to him. You are desired to keep him fully advised as to the movements and probable designs of the enemy. A steamer for the necessary transportation has been placed at Stone House Wharf, subject to the orders of General Colston.

The enemy is pressing us on all sides, and a call for re-enforcements comes from every department. It is impossible to place at every point which is threatened a force which shall prove equal to every emergency. As yet the design of the enemy in your front is somewhat vague and undecided. The movement against you may be a feint, and the real attack may be on Norfolk. When it is unmistakably ascertained that he shall attempt to force his way up the Peninsula every exertion shall be made to enable you successfully to resist and drive him.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Rapidan, March 30, 1862.

Brig. Gen. JUBAL A. EARLY,
Commanding Fourth Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that if Brigadier-General Kershaw's brigade has not yet been moved from the position objected to by Major-General Longstreet, you will direct its immediate removal to some other position.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. MASON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 31, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say that he has received information that there are within your command certain arms not in use belonging to the companies of heavy artillery in service at the fixed batteries. Every arm must be in the hands of troops and made available at this time. The men at the heavy batteries may be armed

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with pikes, and any muskets there may be to spare placed in the hands of the new troops.

He cannot vouch for the accuracy of his information, and only wishes to call your attention to the importance of rendering every musket serviceable.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 31, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Army of the Peninsula:

GENERAL: In reply to your requisition of the 29th instant for 1,000,000 of musket cartridges, I have to state that the Ordnance Department is able to forward to you this morning 60,000 cartridges of various calibers. There is a large demand for cartridges for Knoxville and Goldsborough, as well as for your department; and I am informed that as fast as the cartridges are turned out, which is about at the rate of 70,000 per day, they will be distributed to the above-named points in proportion to the requisitions from each. Goldsborough is pretty well supplied now, so that you will share chiefly in the distribution with Knoxville. The Chief of Ordnance is also under the impression that your supplies since November last have been sufficient to make up the waste in the stock in your hands previous to that date.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., March 31, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Department, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your telegram asking that Ramseur's battery be sent you. There is already under your command on the Peninsula double the amount of the artillery in the Department of Norfolk.

It was not intended that General Colston should cross the river unless there was positive evidence of an attack against you in force. The instructions were to this effect; nor was it contemplated that Ramseur's battery or the cavalry should accompany him until it was ascertained that no attack was threatened on Norfolk.

From present indications I think that Norfolk is quite as seriously threatened as the Peninsula, and more probably the object of attack. Should the latter prove the case, it is expected, as intimated to you by letter on 26th instant, that you will render all the assistance in your power compatible with the security of your own line.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. ARMY,
Richmond, Va., April 1, 1862.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, C. S. A.:

SIR: I have just heard from General Huger that the obstruction contemplated in Elizabeth River, by lines of piles left open for our own vessels and to be closed by booms or hulks prepared to be sunk as the enemy approach, has not yet been commenced. Deeming it essential to the safety of Norfolk, I must request that you will order the commandant of the yard to co-operate with General Huger in making the obstruction and to proceed with it as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *April* 1, 1862.

General HUGER, *Norfolk:*

On my arrival here I saw the Secretary of the Navy, and he consented to furnish hulks or booms for floating gates to a line of obstructions. I supposed the orders had been issued to the commandant of the yard. I will see that it is done, and wish you to proceed immediately with the work, in conjunction with the commandant of the yard.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, *April* 2, 1862.

Capt. S. S. LEE,
Commandant Navy-Yard, Norfolk:

Proceed at once to obstruct Elizabeth River. Call on General Huger for such aid and co-operation as may be necessary. Prepare hulks to shut passage when necessary.

JEFFERSON DAVIS,

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, April 2, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 1st instant I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of the instructions of this Department to the commandant of the navy-yard, Norfolk, on the subject of placing obstructions in Elizabeth River.

Captain Sterrett was detailed to report to him to superintend the work.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

[Inclosures.]

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, March 24, 1862.

Capt. S. S. LEE,
Appointed to Command Navy-Yard, Norfolk, Va.:

SIR: You will take immediate steps to raise the Columbus and Dela-

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ware, in order to use them, if necessary, to close the approaches to Norfolk.

You will immediately place the Germantown or Confederate States, or both, if necessary, in such position as to enable you to sink one or both of them at short notice at the best point and in the best manner to obstruct the approach of the enemy's ships to Norfolk. General Randolph thinks that either ship can be so placed to act like a swinging gate, to keep a passage open for our use and to sink the vessel at pleasure to close it against the enemy. The Virginia must not be shut in.

In these operations you must consult with General Huger, and as the completion of the iron-clad boat now in progress is a matter of vital interest, you will please avoid decreasing the contractor's price in the operations necessary to this work.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

FLAG-OFFICER'S OFFICE,
Gosport, Va., March 28, 1862.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond:

SIR: In further response to your letter of the 24th instant, directing the preparation of the Germantown and Confederate States for service below the harbor in obstructing approaches, &c., I have the honor to inform the Department that the Germantown is in perfect readiness to be removed at any moment, and that the Confederate States requires only the removal of her own crew and the crews of the vessels composing the squadron under the command of Flag-Officer Tatnall, which are now quartered on board her, to their respective ships or to some other quarters, to render her also ready. This can be effected quite readily. Meantime I respectfully request, since these two vessels have been named by you for the purposes indicated, that authority be given me to prepare the Plymouth for use as a receiving ship in place of the Confederate States. The time and expense involved in the preparation of this latter vessel will be inconsiderable, as she is now nearly, if not quite, in condition for the purpose.

I shall not fail, as suggested by the Department, to invite a free conference with General Huger as to the manner in which these vessels can be disposed so as to accomplish the objects contemplated.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. S. LEE,
Commandant.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY BRIGADE,
Rappahannock, Va., April 2, 1862.

General JAMES LONGSTREET:

GENERAL: I have learned from several sources since my last dispatch to you that this force in our front, of not exceeding 10,000, is distinct, if not isolated, from the Army of the Potomac as a body. A. M. White, just from Alexandria, is the most reliable informant. He says he has been witnessing the embarkation of troops for several days from Alexandria; that McDowell's corps and Heintzelman's have certainly embarked or are now at it. McClellan was at Seminary Hill. No troops of consequence about Fairfax Court-House, and at Center-

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ville one German regiment of Blenker's. As those in our front are Blenker's, I infer the same division is scattered along this line. I have been hoping for your return with the view to fall upon this Dutch division with 15,000 men and crush it, to do which we could afford to wade and ford all the streams interfering. The steamers, according to Mr. White, make a round trip in sixty hours. He is certain of that, because he says he knows the vessels. He says their main force is going by water to some point down the river. The enemy in our front is tinkering at the bridges, but we get some every day; caught 8 cavalry yesterday. Munford is doing excellent service about The Plains, where he reports Geary with 1,300. One of my cavalry captured 5 Massachusetts infantry with Enfield rifles.

Munford says there is no movement from Banks' column this way; that Abercrombie's brigade was near Union. Please do something for filling up my brigade. I send this by Daingerfield Lewis, as special bearer of dispatches.

General Ewell, to whom I have shown the foregoing and who concurs in the belief that there is an opportunity for a blow, suggests to me to add that the prisoners taken talk very freely that the object of the late demonstration here was to make us destroy the bridges, and that a few bridge materials, such as rope and tar, would make the movement easy. The value to us of such a blow you know, but it is for you to judge of its propriety and feasibility, because you can look at the matter from a higher stand-point than the banks of the Rappahannock.

The information may serve you, however, in other connections.

Most respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA,
Lee's Farm, April 2, 1862—8.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. R. E. COLSTON,
Commanding First Brigade, Department of Norfolk, Smithfield:

SIR: General Magruder directs me to request you to send the steamer Allison, with any other transportation you may have, to Grove's Wharf as speedily as possible, to convey back to you the two regiments under Col. R. A. Pryor. The present indications are that these troops will be needed on your side, and General Magruder is therefore ordered to send them to their former position. There is no transportation now on this side.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FLAG-OFFICER'S OFFICE,
Dock-Yard, Gosport, Va., April 3, 1862.

His Excellency JEFF. DAVIS,
President Confederate States, Richmond:

SIR: I had the honor to receive your telegram of the 2d last night at a late hour.

General Huger and myself have conferred together upon the subject of obstructing Elizabeth River, and have agreed upon the point to be

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blocked up, if it becomes necessary. The sloop-of-war Germantown is now ready in all respects to be taken below, and the Confederate States will be in readiness in a day or two. The line-of-battle ships Delaware and Columbus are completely sunk alongside the wharf, their bottoms resting upon the mud. I have contracted with the Messrs. Baker, who possess all the appliances needed for raising sunken wrecks, such as steam-pumps, large floats, &c., and they commence operations on the Delaware to-day. The condition of these vessels is such as to render it impossible to conjecture when either will be raised. I shall employ every means within my control in aid of the contractors, so as to have these vessels available for the object contemplated at the earliest possible moment. If these ships could be available now, the part of the channel proposed to be obstructed could be effectually closed up; their great size would enable us readily to accomplish it. The point determined on by General Huger and myself is what is known as the Narrows, just this side Sewell's Point; the distance thence to Norfolk is too great to be reached or compassed by the enemy's shells.

There is some difficulty to be apprehended in blocking up the channel, however. The vessels cannot be sunk until the Virginia leaves, and to have them at the point in readiness to scuttle on the approach of the enemy would involve some risk of losing them. They might be reached by boat expeditions some dark night and destroyed. I repeat, however, that I shall use my best exertions to have everything in readiness, and exercise my best judgment, aided by General Huger's large experience, in carrying out your directions.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. S. LEE,
Commandant.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK,
April 3, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I have received your telegram, and have conferred with Captain Lee, commanding navy-yard, as to obstructing the channel. He will get all hulks ready as soon as possible. I propose to barricade the narrow channel near Craney Island, and am having examinations of it made. I fear it will take some time to get up the large hulks.

Up to this time no demonstration has been made by the enemy from which we might divine their point of attack. From their large numbers and the great activity at Old Point and Newport News we must conclude they intend to advance on one side of the river or the other. I cannot decide which is most likely.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

ENGINEER BUREAU,
Richmond, April 3, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, C. S. A.,
Headquarters, Richmond:

GENERAL: There are now ready for the defense of James River one 8-inch and one 10-inch columbiad, with barbette carriages. These

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guns were ordered some time since for a battery in the vicinity of Old Fort Powhatan. Do you wish them sent to Harden's Bluff or Mulberry Island Point, or reserved for a position higher up the river?

With great respect, your obedient servant,

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief Engineer Bureau.

[Indorsement.]

I do not know the condition of Fort Powhatan. It ought to be armed and river barricaded at once. If guns at present are more wanted at Harden's or Mulberry Island, or if they will be more available there now than at Fort Powhatan, send them.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 3, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 1st instant,* relative to the assistance which might be rendered you by the steamer Teazer, &c., and am directed by the general commanding to say that he had referred the same to the honorable Secretary of the Navy, with the request that orders be given the commanders of the gunboats in the James River to communicate to you, through the officer in charge at Mulberry Island, information of the enemy's movements in the river, to disperse and destroy their transports, and to cooperate with the batteries on the river generally in its defense.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 3, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Department, Yorktown:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say that report has reached him that the batteries at Gloucester Point are not in a good condition, the men not well drilled, &c.; that the men were in consequence a little discouraged, and the citizens in that locality not as confident as would be desirable of their capabilities of defense, &c.

Though very much questioning the accuracy and truthfulness of this information, he deems the matter of such great importance that he wishes at least that you should know of and have your attention called to the matter, confident that you will remedy any existing defects.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 3, 1862.

General J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Army of the Peninsula, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo in reference to the smallness of your cavalry arm and the necessity of having it increased, and requesting to have Lieutenant-Colonel Ball, of the Virginia cavalry, ordered to report to you. Lieutenant-Colonel Ball has been ordered accordingly, and it is supposed has reported to you already.

Five companies of cavalry, belonging to the Wise Legion, have also been ordered to report to you. Two of them left this morning, and the other three will start to-morrow. This command, with the exception of two companies (Shields' and Caskie's), are tolerably well armed, equipped, and mounted, and it is hoped you can supply the deficiencies in these two.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
T. A. WASHINGTON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FREDERICKSBURG, *April 4, 1862.*

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: I attempted last night to give the President by telegraph the information I found here, but the operator reported that he was unable to communicate with Richmond, the office there being closed apparently.

General Sumner's headquarters are at the Warrenton Junction. The force of the enemy between that point and Alexandria is 40,000 or 50,000. He is rebuilding the railroad bridges. This is reported by prisoners taken by scouting parties.

A party, estimated at 2,500, marched yesterday from the neighborhood of the Chopawampsic to Stafford Court-House, driving in our pickets. It retired during the night.

General Longstreet wrote on the 2d that General Jackson reported the enemy advancing in force and at Woodstock at 2.30 p. m. on the 1st instant. Yesterday afternoon he wrote that General Jackson reported the enemy on the 2d advancing to his left. He asks for reenforcements to give battle. General Longstreet replies that it is necessary that he should come nearer to our position to make that practicable. I have told him (General Longstreet) that two days' march is the utmost distance to which it would be prudent to detach. Two brigades are held in readiness to march. General Jackson has been instructed if the enemy continues to press him to leave the valley by the Swift Run Gap and move toward Orange Court-House. Sumner's position is as near this place as Rapidan Bridge.

General Longstreet reported at 3 p. m. yesterday that General Early's brigade would get off during the day (to Richmond) and General Griffith's brigade to-day. I directed him, upon the information found here, to stop the movement. Early's troops will probably arrive in Richmond before this reaches you.

You will perceive that the loss of that division will make us too weak to hold this line if pressed in front and on the left flank at the same time. The President, however, will always have the means of judging where those troops are most needed.

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A telegraph station at the Hanover Junction, by which we could communicate from the Rapidan to this place without depending upon Richmond, would greatly facilitate our intercourse. I beg that it may be established without delay.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

FROM RICHMOND, *April* 4, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

The movement of the troops directed from your line must immediately be made to this place. Enemy advancing in force from Old Point.

By order of the President:

R. E. LEE.

HDQRS. SECOND DIV., DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
April 4, 1862—2 a. m.

Brig. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The major-general temporarily commanding the army directs that you order Brigadier-General Griffith to move his brigade by railway to Richmond as rapidly as possible. Major Barbour, chief quartermaster, is directed to furnish the necessary transportation, and the brigade will move as soon as it is ready.

I am further instructed to direct that you yourself proceed to Richmond for orders.

I am, general, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. MOXLEY SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK,
Norfolk, Va., April 4, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: There are now mounted on the approaches to Norfolk seventeen 9-inch guns, viz: At Sewell's Point, seven; at Craney Island, seven; at Fort Norfolk, three. By replacing any of these by 32-pounders these guns can be removed; for most of these guns barbette carriages have been constructed, and these carriages would be useless for 32-pounders.

As regards furnishing mechanics to work for Navy Department, I referred an application of the commandant of navy-yard to Secretary of War on 29th of March, and recommended such mechanics as were necessary should be discharged from the army for carrying on the work required. I inclose you a copy of that letter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 4, 1862.

Col. J. GORGAS,
Chief Ordnance Bureau, Richmond, Va.:

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that you will cause one 10-inch columbiad, with barbette carriage, to be sent to Drewry's Bluff, and one 4.62-inch rifled siege gun to General Huger, to be placed on Nansemond River. I wish five 8-inch columbiads retained for the battery at Mulberry Island, for which casemate carriages are being provided. These carriages were promised to be done some time since. Can you not hasten their completion and send them down?

I will advise you shortly of my wishes concerning the other guns on your memorandum, which I understand will be four 8-inch columbiads with barbette carriages.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

LEE'S MILL, *April 4, 1862.*

Col. B. S. EWELL:

Inform Col. Hill Carter by express that the enemy have advanced in force, and are at Warwick Court-House on one side and Harwood's Mill and Cockletown on the other. Press all the vehicles in the country, and send all the sick that can be safely moved to Bigler's Mill and Jamestown, to be forwarded to Richmond. Send the sick from Bigler's also to Richmond, if practicable. Place a guard of 3 men over the lighters at mouth of College Creek to ferry any troops over, or take the lighters up the creek if the enemy advance. You will make every effort possible to move the guns from the lower to the upper works at Spratley's. Move the lighter guns at all events, and have a man ready to spike the heavy guns, if it becomes absolutely necessary to do so to save them from the enemy. General Rains has been ordered to send the Logan to Bigler's to-morrow to move your sick.

By command of Major-General Magruder:

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 4, 1862.

Lieutenant TALIAFERRO,
Ordnance Officer, Williamsburg:

SIR: You will send one-half of all the ammunition you have to-night without delay. Have the rest ready for issue. Tell Colonel Ewell the enemy is at Warwick Court-House in great force, and to have his men at their guns to-morrow all day, their guns loaded and pointed and all his ammunition ready. Should our men be repulsed, he must be careful not to fire upon them. Tell him to have a piece of artillery at Whitaker's Mill to cover our retreat if we should have to fall back, and that it may be in the night. The countersign to-morrow is "Weldon;" the next "Florida;" the third, "Mason." His men must remain at night sleeping on their arms in the works. The wagons will report to these headquarters, at Lee's house, with the ammunition.

By order of Major-General Magruder:

A. B. MAGRUDER.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 4 1862—12 at night.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I think our only chance of ultimate success is by uniting Huger's army, mine, and all floating forces at once with General J. E. Johnston's army, and beating McClellan's army of the Potomac—say, if we can get together 70,000 men, we might accomplish this and return to defend Richmond in time to save it. The Virginia might be stationed in the mean time on the outside of Fort Monroe to prevent further re-enforcements to the army there, and their advance might be retarded by some 2,000 men left here, the pickets remaining the same, and the movement masked by interrupting all communications, stopping the postal channels, and putting the newspapers on a false scent or suppressing them. If we wait until his armies unite at Richmond, we cannot of course resist them together when we could not conquer one separately, and when thus united they could follow us anywhere, and defeat us more easily than any one of their armies could do it. This course has been pursued before with success; why not now?

Drop me a line.

In haste, yours, very truly,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 5, 1862.

General LEE, *Richmond:*

The enemy's pickets advanced in sight of Yorktown, but it is now raining, and I think there will be no attack to-day.

I have made my arrangements to fight with my small force, but without the slightest hope of success.

If I am re-enforced in time with 10,000 men I think I can block the way to Richmond.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 5, 1862.

Col. T. G. HUNT,
Mulberry Point:

SIR: I am instructed by the commanding general to direct you to occupy the works at Minor's farm with all your force, including artillery.

The horses of Captain Young's battery will be returned immediately.

It is highly important to hold these works as long as possible.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[HENRY BRYAN,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Rapidan, April 6, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, C. S. A.:

GENERAL: I have just received your telegram of yesterday in cipher.*

My suggestion, to which you refer, was based on the supposition that the enemy is advancing upon you. I cannot here compare the state of affairs in my front with that in front of others, and cannot, therefore, decide understandingly whether troops are less needed here than elsewhere, which seems to me to be the question. He who directs military operations upon information from every department can.

The railroad is operating so slowly that there is abundant time to instruct me further.

General Stuart thinks that the Federal force near Cedar Run is about 10,000 and that there is no large body of troops at Manassas. General Jackson's two last reports represent the enemy near him quiet.

Your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, April 6, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of a report made to me by Lieut. Commanding H. H. Lewis, in charge of the steamer Rappahannock, which vessel is actively co-operating with the army, from which you will observe that he has, upon the request of General Holmes, prepared four vessels, loading them with stone, to obstruct the Rappahannock River.

Lieutenant Lewis informs me that several other vessels might be similarly prepared, and I suggest that he be authorized to take such of them as he may deem best and get them ready for the purpose.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

[Inclosure.]

C. S. STEAMER RAPPAHANNOCK,
Fredericksburg, April 3, 1862.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: In obedience to instructions from you I have afforded every assistance in my power to Captain Rootes, in getting up timber for gunboats to this place, as well as the commissary, in towing up boats loaded with grain and supplies on the Rappahannock River.

Maj. Gen. Gustavus W. Smith called upon me on the 27th of March to aid him in dismantling Fort Lowry and removing the guns and public property from that place to Fredericksburg, with which I promptly complied, and saved five out of eight guns.

I regret to state that a lighter was taken in tow by the steamer Virginia, whilst I was absent, by which we lost three fine guns, the lighter having been run under by great carelessness.

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Early in March Major-General Holmes requested me to prepare some vessels as obstructions for the Rappahannock River, and I have now four ready, loaded with stones, and anchored 6 miles below this place. They will effectually block up the channel at the point where they are, but at a point lower down the river can be as well obstructed and well defended by riflemen from the high banks. I think if this point was defended the vessels had best be placed there. One or two more would then be required to fill up the channel.

I would call your attention to a Baltimore schooner, recently arrived from that place, with an assorted cargo, owned by Messrs. Dubbin & Pennyman, who came over in her. I directed them to report to the Secretary of the Treasury, which they did, and a custom-house officer was placed on board. I should be pleased to know if this vessel has authority to leave our waters, as she is still in the river, and some doubts have arisen as to the reliability of the master of her.

I have the pleasure to inform you that this vessel has been most usefully employed in her various duties, and every facility given me by the officers of the Army in prosecuting them.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

H. H. LEWIS,
Lieutenant, Commanding, C. S. Navy.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
April 6, 1862—2 a. m.

Col. G. T. WARD:

SIR: I am instructed by the commanding general to direct you to have all the batteries supplied with canister, and Richardson's battery with grape as well as canister.

This must be your main dependence in case the enemy tries to assault you with heavy columns, which the commanding general thinks he will attempt.

I am, sir, &c.,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JAMESTOWN ISLAND, *April* 6, 1862.

Colonel EWELL,
Commanding Post at Williamsburg:

DEAR SIR: Upon examination I find that we have only cartridges enough to issue 15 rounds to each man. Some 1,000 of those on hand are damaged to such an extent that they are wholly unfit for use. I wish you would send me 4,000, if you can possibly do so.

Yours, respectfully,

J. R. C. LEWIS,
Major, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 6, 1862.

Col. B. S. EWELL, *Williamsburg:*

All troops arriving at Bigler's Mill will be ordered to Lebanon Church to await orders. The troops will press on without delay, sending

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couriers to headquarters to announce their approach. The couriers at Lebanon Church will receive and bear messages or communications from the commanding officer.

By command of Major-General Magruder:

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 6, 1862—10 o'clock at night.

General LEE, *Richmond:*

Skirmishing along the whole line to-day; enemy threatening every point; erecting batteries in front of Yorktown and in front of our lines on the Warwick River. Balloons have been observing Yorktown and the whole of our line. They discovered a weak point, where numbers must prevail. It is in a wood, in our center. We will work day and night to strengthen it.

Exchanged fire with ships to-day at Yorktown, everybody behaving beautifully. Our firing blew up one of the enemy's caissons to-day. Two regiments of Cobb's brigade arrived to-day. Re-enforcements come very slowly, and will probably be too late.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 98. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Rapidan, April 6, 1862.

* * * * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. W. S. Featherston is assigned to the command of the special brigade formerly commanded by Col. G. B. Anderson, and will report to Brig. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding division, for duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Johnston:

THOS. G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 7, 1862.

General B. HUGER,
Commanding Department, Norfolk, Va.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: It appears from the maps in my possession that the Nansemond River is defended by a number of small batteries scattered along its banks, erected from time to time to meet the emergency then existing. Singly these batteries are weak against a serious naval attack, and are more or less liable to be taken and destroyed by a sudden night attack by land. I think it would be better, if practicable, to collect the guns from these scattered batteries and place them in position at some point where they can be concentrated on an obstruction in the channel of the river. A position at or near Town Point seems to be a suitable one; and, if so, under this view, the guns from Cedar Point (Page's battery), and perhaps Pig Point and Bar-

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rett's Neck batteries, might be dispensed with and the main defense made at Town Point or any other position you may select. Of course the guns should not be removed from their present positions until the works are ready to receive them at the new position selected. My information on the subject is so meager that I do not pretend to advise, nor even to suggest, but merely to call the matter to your personal attention.

It would be a relief to know your views on the subject, your plans, and how far they have been carried out; for without such knowledge I can neither satisfy my own mind nor answer the numerous questions propounded to me.

I am, &c., your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 7, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond:*

GENERAL: The regiments arriving to re-enforce me come without transportation. I am short of transportation, and have already requested additional wagons and teams to be sent to me.

I beg you to call the attention of the Secretary of War to the fact that the Quartermaster-General is detaining in Richmond the transportation of the regiments sent to aid me, and to request him to order that the transportation belonging to these regiments should be sent here, and in the mean time to send me the wagons and teams I solicited some time ago.

I am also short of horses for the artillery. I made a requisition some time ago, and it was neither filled nor noticed.

I beg to earnestly call your attention to this fact. This deficiency is serious, and its being provided for is an absolute necessity.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 7, 1862.

General WILCOX:

SIR: The commanding general directs me to say that Colonel Seibels' Sixth Alabama Regiment is now in Yorktown awaiting orders. You will therefore order them to Colonel Ward's position, and such other troops as may have arrived at Yorktown you will place in position upon your line at such points as you may think most necessary, there to await further orders.

Brigadier-General Rodes will report to you to-day. You will assign his brigade to position. The Sixth Alabama, Colonel Seibels, is part of his command.

Look particularly and carefully to the upper dam, between Ward's and Winston's position, and report your views in regard to the line as well as what is taking place thereon.

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General Rodes, with the larger part of his command, will join you from this direction.

By order of Major-General Magruder:

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 7, 1862.

Brigadier-General WILCOX,
Commanding Third Division, Wynn's Mill:

SIR: I am instructed by the commanding general to inform you that should we be forced to retire it is necessary that Yorktown should be re-enforced under any circumstances with at least two regiments, and he designates the Twenty-sixth Alabama, Colonel O'Neal, and Forty-sixth Virginia, Colonel Richardson, as those which, if practicable, should be thrown into the garrison of Yorktown in the event of such retirements.

He therefore wishes that you should, circumstances permitting, so place these regiments that they may be certainly thrown into Yorktown when needed. This must be done if possible in the above contingency, and two regiments under any circumstances must be added to the garrison if we fall back, whether the above-named regiments can be thrown into it or not.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Owing to the pressure on this side Brigadier-General Rodes' brigade will be held in reserve in the apple orchard near Dam No. 2, under General McLaws' command, for the present. He will come to your help if needed when informed by you.

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 7, 1862.

Col. B. S. EWELL,
Commanding, Williamsburg:

COLONEL: I am directed by the commanding general to direct you to have piled on King's Mill Wharf, at different places, light-wood and other inflammable material, to which you will set fire as soon as you perceive that the enemy's boats have passed Harden's Bluff and Mulberry Point batteries.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. DOUGLAS,
Engineer-in-Chief and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS AQUIA DISTRICT,
Fredericksburg, April 7, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, Richmond:

GENERAL: Herewith is inclosed a statement made by the Rev. Mr.

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Stuart, of Alexandria. I sent telegrams early this morning embodying the most important information, one to yourself and one to General J. E. Johnston. I sent by courier a copy of the statement of Mr. Stuart to General Johnston, and have directed the reverend gentleman to be brought in that we may hear what more he has to say.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

G. W. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

Memorandum of a conversation held by Capt. B. B. Douglas, Company H, Ninth Virginia Cavalry, with the Rev. K. J. Stuart, late of Alexandria, on Saturday, the 5th of April, 1862.

Mr. Stuart is an Episcopal clergyman, and was recently arrested in Alexandria while officiating in the pulpit for refusing to offer prayers for the President of the United States. He escaped in company with a young man named Brent on Thursday night, the 3d instant, disguised as sailors, and landed on Friday night in King George County, Va., just above Mathias Point.

Plans and policy of the enemy.—Early in February last Mr. Stuart was in Washington City, where he saw and conversed with Major Lee, Judge Advocate-General of the Federal Army. Major Lee said that in thirty days from the date of the conversation the plans of the Federal Government would be fully developed. They consisted in part of a grand and powerful movement against Centreville and the whole Potomac line of defense. The Government had called into play its every resource so as to insure success, and had proceeded on a scale of expenditure so vast that its means and its credit were for the present all absorbed or exhausted. It was impossible to renew an effort of such magnitude if failure ensued, unless the new phase of policy to be adopted in such an event gave fair promise of success.

This new phase consisted in directing all their efforts to detaching the border States from the Southern Confederacy and proposing peace on the basis of the independence of the rest.

The States and parts of States to be detached were Delaware, Maryland, Western Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri; also, if possible, Tennessee. The means to this end were the destruction of slavery, the expulsion of all secessionists, or their exclusion from the pulpits, the courts, the practice of medicine, the marts of trade, &c., and the introduction of a more subservient element, by which the Unionists should obtain preponderance at the ballot-box.

Mr. Stuart says that the greatest dissatisfaction exists toward General McClellan for allowing General Johnston to escape the toils so laboriously and at such heavy cost prepared for him. In the North the move is looked upon as one displaying the most masterly strategy, as frustrating the anxiously expected denouement of their gigantic schemes, and extremely disastrous to the Federals.

An officer in the Treasury Department, noted for the general accuracy of his information and in a position to be well informed, told Mr. Stuart that General Johnston's move had cost the Federal Government $100,000,000, and that the daily expenditure of the Government in its efforts to meet the change reached the enormous sum of $4,000,000.

Movements of the enemy.—Nearly all the forces in and near Washington, including Hooker's division, have been taken to Old Point. General McClellan has himself gone thither, passing down the river, as Mr. Stuart had every reason to believe, on Friday last.

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On Sunday last a clerk in the Signal Service Headquarters informed Mr. Stuart that orders had been issued for the officers of that service to embark that night. Next morning Mr. Stuart observed a vessel in the stream flying the flag of the Signal Service, and evidently awaiting the arrival of the general or further orders.

But these officers always attended the general, and he thinks therefore that they were awaiting him; and, subsequently noting the absence of the vessel, is certain it proceeded down the river, and that General McClellan preceded or accompanied it. His information is to the effect that McDowell's division alone is left to threaten General Johnston; that it is not very strong in numbers and almost without artillery. The forces are scattered about, and a great display made of army wagons, to produce the impression that the force is larger than it really is, and seriously meditates an advance. This Mr. Stuart is satisfied they dare not do, but will limit their operations to amusing our generals and preventing, if possible, their timely re-enforcement of the real point of attack, which he supposes to be the Peninsula. Most of the information on this point was communicated to Mr. Stuart on Wednesday night by an educated and intelligent negro, who had a wife on his lot, and who came down on that day from Manassas with a major in the commissary department, in which also the negro was employed. This informant also told him that the Confederates had driven the Federals from Warrenton back to Manassas, capturing or killing 3 of their most valuable men, officers he supposes were meant; that he had recently been to Manassas, Fairfax, and Centreville, and that he saw no artillery at either place or anywhere else on his route, except one battery, which was on its way to Alexandria to be shipped off. Similar information was conveyed to him by a gentleman employed as a secret agent by General Johnston, who had just come from General Johnston's camp, and was on his way to New York.

With regard to Hooker's division, Mr. Stuart himself saw a number of transports and steamers lying in Mattawoman Creek as the vessel on which he was got off the mouth of it. In a little while three other large steamers came up and joined the rest, and shortly afterward several more appeared in sight. There was a busy movement of troops on shore, evidently preparing for embarkation, and they are supposed to have gone down the river on Friday night.

The foregoing narrative is written out from notes of the conversation taken at the time, and, except being fuller, to make it intelligible to the reader, is an accurate transcript of what was said and noted down.

Respectfully, &c.,

B. B. DOUGLAS,
Captain Company H, Ninth Virginia Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 8, 1862.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that, from recent developments of the intentions of the enemy in the Peninsula, it is my opinion that they are endeavoring to change their base of operations from James to York River. This change has no doubt been occasioned by their fear of the effect of the Virginia upon their shipping in the James. General

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Magruder informs me that their gunboats and transports have appeared off Shipping Point, on the Poquosin, near the mouth of the York, where they intend apparently to establish a landing for stores, preparatory to moving against our lines at Yorktown.

They could easily ascend York and the Pamunkey Rivers with their gunboats and transports as high as the railroad bridge over the latter if they succeed in passing the defenses at Yorktown.

I respectfully suggest for your consideration the practicability of the Virginia's passing Fort Monroe in the night to York River. She could by destroying the enemy's gunboats and transports thwart this design. After effecting this object she could again return to Hampton Roads under cover of night. I would, however, recommend that the Virginia, previously to an attempt against the enemy in York River, should strike a blow at their transports and shipping in Hampton Roads and the bay outside of Forts Monroe and Calhoun, so as to prevent the possibility of an attack on Norfolk. In this manner she could so cripple their means of supplying their army as to prevent its moving against Richmond, while she would deter any movement against Norfolk. Coal could be sent by railroad and York River to Yorktown for her use.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 8, 1862.

Major CLAIBORNE,
Assistant Commissary Subsistence, &c.:

MAJOR: General Lee directs me to say that it will be necessary to make provision for 30,000 men on the Peninsula, in addition to the old army under Major-General Magruder. This addition comes from Northern Virginia, where a less amount of provisions will be required than heretofore.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 8, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond:*

SIR: I send Lieutenant-Colonel Ball to Richmond to bring down a thousand additional negroes. I find the time too short to get these negroes from the neighboring counties, which would require two or three weeks. I want them to erect works in the rear, which may enable me to save this army in case of being overpowered by numbers and forced to retreat from my present position.

Field guns are necessary to defend the new work at Mulberry Point, just completed for land defense. It is very strong. It also mounts eight very heavy guns, and will probably be able to stand a siege of a month, but in consequence of the slowness of fire of the large guns there must be at least eight field pieces in the work. There are eight field pieces in the work below it across the little peninsula, which were intended for this larger work, on which my right flank rests. If this

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work is successfully stormed these eight field pieces will be lost, and the stronger work therefore without any means of defense. It is not necessary that these eight field pieces should be of long range; they should fire, however, shell and canister or grape, and should have a large quantity of ammunition.

One of McClellan's batteries has opened upon one of mine on my right flank. According to the accounts of prisoners the number and caliber of his pieces of artillery are almost incredible.

As the Virginia is out, the gunboats in Norfolk, the Jamestown and Patrick Henry and others, can certainly pass up the river, and by laying in the Swash Channel, which they can do with ease, can certainly prevent McClellan from crossing the Warwick River below my works unless exposed to a most destructive fire. Please have them ordered up, as the James River is safe so long as the Virginia is below.

Field guns are much needed at Yorktown, and indeed guns for the land defense of every caliber are much needed there; the field pieces especially, to defend the numerous ravines, which are the easiest means of approach by the enemy. Twelve of these at least are required of long range, firing shell. It is absolutely necessary to have many mortars, because of the impossibility of reaching the enemy in the ravines by any other means. There are but three old 42-pounder carronades and two or three old iron guns in the works at Williamsburg. These works are now of importance in defending the Peninsula and in securing the best means of safety for the army in case of disaster. Therefore, if my field artillery be lost, all is lost; hence the necessity of having guns in these works without the least delay. Ten heavy rifled guns and ten batteries of light artillery are required for these works. Send as many, however, as you can.

The right flank at Spratley's requires at least two field batteries, and the work on the main-land opposite Jamestown commanding the bridge requires another battery.

With these guns and fortifications the Peninsula can be held as long as the works at Yorktown and Mulberry Island hold out, and if the Warwick line can be successfully defended, so that neither of these works can be fully invested, McClellan is defeated, at least until the iron-clad vessels of the enemy shall be in such numbers as to make forts useless.

A large quantity of ammunition is necessary to be deposited at Williamsburg.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 8, 1862—10 a. m.

General LEE, *Richmond:*

I want 200 wagons for transportation. Will you send them at once to Williamsburg, overland, loaded with long forage? Drivers, if not to be had, can be pressed under martial law. The 100 horses ordered are very much needed; have not arrived. Please send all the field artillery to be had and in the best possible order. These things are absolutely necessary.

Wagon-masters can be had for money.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 8, 1862.

General RAINS:

SIR: When troops arrive at Yorktown you will communicate with these headquarters by telegraph (when the line is working, or by a courier if it is not) the fact, giving the name of the regiment, its colonel, brigade, and division, encamping them inside the works until you receive orders in regard to the disposition that may be made of them.

I desire to make Yorktown the place to receive all troops that have not been assigned to positions, thereby to have it as strong all the time as possible, and to keep it so under any circumstances. On this subject you will receive precise instructions from me.

The letter which you received ordering you to send the Eighth South Carolina, Kershaw's brigade, contained an inaccuracy, originating in this office. It should have been the Seventh South Carolina. Send the Seventh forthwith to Lebanon. You will keep some one on the wharf all the time to report to you the arrival of troops, and I have just ordered a company of cavalry to report to you for the purpose of acting as guides and bringing me immediate information of the arrivals.

These troops will in every instance, to avoid being observed by the enemy, be sent via the Williamsburg road, turning to the left at Eagle's and to the right when it enters the Grove Wharf road.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 8, 1862.

General G. J. RAINS,
Commanding First Division:

SIR: I am instructed by the commanding general to direct you to have the lines occupied by the command of Colonel Crump and also the portion which enfilade the large ravines in front of Redoubt No. 4 strengthened as much as you may deem necessary, and to have traverses constructed to protect the men defending those lines being taken in reverse from a fire from the enemy's shipping.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. DOUGLAS,
Lieutenant of Engineers, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 8, 1862.

Major-General McLAWS:

GENERAL: Three regiments of General Early's brigade (now at Lebanon Church, viz, Colonel Terry's Twenty-fourth Virginia, Colonel McRae's Fifth North Carolina, and Colonel Cumming's Twentieth Georgia) and Colonel Williams' South Carolina regiment, now at the cross-roads half a mile below, will move at early dawn to-morrow morning, and will report by a staff officer to you, awaiting at the cross-roads, each [such] orders as you may send them, provided there should be any move of the enemy on your right to cross the river which will make such orders necessary.

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These regiments are not destined permanently for your division, but are intended to meet any emergency which may arise from any unexpected movement of the enemy in your vicinity.

Lieutenant Lyon, of the Fifteenth Virginia Regiment, has not reported to these headquarters.

By order of Major-General Magruder.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 9, 1862.

Major-General J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown:

GENERAL: Colonel Carter reported to me yesterday, in conformity to orders from you. I find that my letter of 26th March was not sufficiently explicit. I intended to call your attention to the possibility of the enemy's forcing a passage by the batteries on the York and James Rivers, below your lines at Yorktown, and effecting a landing in your rear above your lines at Yorktown and Williamsburg. It was not my intention to advise an abandonment of the Williamsburg lines, even should you be compelled to fall back from Yorktown, unless the movements of the enemy by water should place him in the rear of the former as well as the latter position. In that event you would be compelled to place the Chickahominy between you and the enemy. At what point you can cross that river will depend on the course of the enemy. Should you find it necessary to fall back, the public roads leading up the Peninsula along the north side of the Chickahominy and the present bridges over the upper part of that river are considered the best, and in this connection I would suggest that those roads and bridges be put in good order for use. I did not intend to advise the passage of the lower Chickahominy, in the contingency named, except in the event of your march by the upper route along the north side of that river being prevented by the enemy. Should such a state of things occur, you would be compelled to cross the river lower down, and I advised on that account an examination of the lower crossings and of the roads leading to them with a view to putting them in good condition, and also that you make the best preparation you can to enable your army to pass at these crossings, if necessary.

In case the enemy succeed in passing your lower river batteries so as to threaten your line of march across the Chickahominy, as above indicated, I further advise that you should take measures to keep the road open as long as might be necessary to enable you to withdraw. For this purpose I advise that you should prepare to destroy such wharves on the York and James Rivers in the rear of your present lines as the enemy would be likely to use for landing their troops. Of course it would not be necessary to extend these preparations to other wharves higher up the rivers than those which the enemy would probably employ for that purpose, nor would it be necessary to destroy any wharves until in your judgment the danger becomes imminent.

I further advise, with the same object of keeping open your line of march across the Chickahominy, that you should prepare to make such display of force in front of the landings which the enemy may approach

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as will retard their advance from the rivers to the interior of the country in your rear. The object of all the precautions advised by me is to secure and keep open the best practicable route by which you can retire behind Chickahominy in the event of the enemy's getting in the rear of your lines at Williamsburg in the manner indicated and forcing you to withdraw behind that river.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 9, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Department, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: In reply to your several telegrams of yesterday, requesting that caps, ammunition, wagons, and negroes be sent to you, I am directed by General Lee to say that all that is possible is being done toward supplying your necessities. Two days ago a large quantity of ammunition was forwarded by way of James River for your command. In addition to the caps with the small-arm ammunition, 60,000 finest quality English caps were sent.

Powder, lead, and other material are very scarce, and the demand from all sides great and urgent.

The general desires you to impress upon the commanding officers the great importance of caring for the ammunition and preventing its waste by the men. The wagon transportation is being forwarded with all possible dispatch. The troops move by rail and boats and of course precede the wagons by some days, but the Quartermaster's Department is directed to hasten them forward, and is doing its utmost in that way.

As regards the negroes which you request to be sent you, the general thinks it unadvisable under the present circumstances that they should be placed in such near proximity to the enemy. It would be unsafe, and in event of an engagement they would be much in the way. He thinks the troops could be employed upon the works in question.

The troops from the Department of Northern Virginia will carry ammunition with them.

The Quartermaster-General has been made aware of your need of horses, and will supply them as soon as possible.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
April 9, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond:*

SIR: Since my last communication I find that the enemy are throwing up heavy batteries in front, threatening the most important point of my line, Yorktown. By a glance at the map you will see, if he breaks the line there, what the consequences will be.

I find that 5,000 spades at least are necessary and 1,000 axes. I un-

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derstand that Captain Rives has 15,000 spades, and that it is impossible to buy axes in Richmond, but if a call were made upon the people there I have no doubt they could be obtained by a contribution of one ax by each family.

Please say to the Secretary of War that I need excessively the services of Major St. John and a corps of engineers. Officers know nothing on this subject, and on a line of 15 miles' extent it is impossible to be present myself or that the few engineers I have can be at one-half the points necessary.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NORFOLK, *April* 10, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Your letter of the 7th, concerning the batteries on Nansemond River, was received yesterday. You are perfectly correct; small batteries were put up from time to time, as our limited means permitted, to keep off such gunboats as the enemy then had, and they were sufficient for that purpose, as events have shown. During last summer and fall a half dozen wooden steamers were all we had to meet in shallow waters, and these batteries served to keep them off, and prevented their making a Newport News on this side of the river.

Against the means they then had I was prepared to prevent any landing, but against such forces as they have now collected you are perfectly correct. "These batteries singly are weak against a serious naval attack, and are more or less liable to be taken and destroyed by a sudden night attack (I may add day attack either) by land."

I have been endeavoring for some time past to get obstructions placed off Town Point, and am at work strengthening that point, but I have not yet abandoned any of the batteries. If I do so it invites them to come and occupy that position, and I have no force to drive them out before they fortify themselves there. If it were not for the fear of the Virginia there is nothing to prevent the enemy from occupying any point he pleases west of the Nansemond River, and I could not meet his advance for one or two days with over 1,000 men, and I could only then move against him with troops absolutely necessary to guard the positions they now hold.

To add to my embarrassment the terms of service of many of the regiments expire within the next twenty days. Those that may be reorganized are for the present much disorganized by the process, and I fear I will lose several of the best regiments here, viz, the Third Alabama, Third and Fourth Georgia, First Louisiana, none of whom have yet re-enlisted. If they all leave the enemy may come, and, if in sufficient force, the resistance cannot be great. We have so long a line and so cut up with rivers it is impossible to concentrate our forces rapidly.

All the troops that were sent to Suffolk have been removed (the First South Carolina Regiment which was there was about as strong as the two Virginia regiments now there). The First Brigade (Colston's) is in the Peninsula, and I am weaker now than ever before, without the withdrawal of the regiments above mentioned. When they leave I

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will be powerless. What can I do about it? I do not know and I am not aware that you can help me.

The terms of three North Carolina regiments expire in a short time.

I am very deficient in many departments, but must struggle on against all difficulties.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's House, April 11, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: General Hill has reported to me with his division, which he represents as 4,000 strong. Previous to his arrival I had received about 16,000 men, making, in round numbers, say, 20,000 men. My old army consisted of 11,500 efficient men, making an aggregate of 31,500. But large numbers of these are not available for defense on my extended line. Some 1,500 are over the York River, at Gloucester Point; about 5,000 at Yorktown, in garrison; 750 at Jamestown Island; 1,000 at Mulberry Island, and 200 at Williamsburg and vicinity.

I have thus about 23,000 men on a line 14 miles long to meet an enemy estimated at between 100,000 and 200,000.

I wish 10,000 additional men, if possible, and a greater amount of field artillery; the garrison's work requiring the greatest part of what I have.

The enemy is reported to have three hundred rifle pieces, and I think truly, and their number must tell dreadfully on us.

All my troops are now in position, or taking position, as fast as they arrive, and I have no reserve, the important necessity of which you can understand in the face of an enemy so much exceeding us.

I am, general, yours, respectfully,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April [11], 1862—3.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General EARLY,
Commanding Third Division, Shields' Farm:

SIR: You were directed this morning to send out skirmishers to the front to ascertain the position of the enemy. I am now instructed to direct you to send out no less than a brigade to skirmish and ascertain the position of the enemy, falling back before a large force.

You will hold another brigade in reserve to support the skirmishers in case of necessity, manning your works to hold the enemy in check should they attempt to follow our troops when they retire.

This to be done promptly.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 11, 1862.

Col. JOHN A. WINSTON, *Wynn's Mill:*

SIR: I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to direct you to send out skirmishers at once, to discover the position of the enemy. A similar movement is directed to be made all along our front.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Lee's Farm, near Lee's Mill, April 11, 1862.

PROCLAMATION.

To the Citizens of the Peninsula and south side of James River:

McClellan, at the head of 100,000 men, is threatening our whole line. To meet this force successfully our main reliance is to be placed upon breastworks. Soldiers cannot be expected to work night and day and fight besides.

Our negro force now at work on fortifications is too small to accomplish this object before the enemy may attempt to carry us by assault, when it will be beyond the power of all the force in the country to remedy that which earlier could have been effected with a slight additional assistance.

Under these circumstances I am sure that no patriotic citizen, with the issue truly at heart, would hesitate to respond most cheerfully to the call which I now make, viz, one negro man, with his ax or spade, to be furnished at once by each proprietor. Without the most liberal assistance in axes, spades, and hands to work we cannot hope to succeed, and the Northern army will be in possession of your farms in a few days.

Mr. Junius Lamb is my authorized agent to receive the negroes. Send them at once, under overseers, to Colonel Ewell, at Williamsburg.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

YORKTOWN, *April* 12, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH:

SIR: I request that the Secretary of the Navy be instructed to inform me what orders have been given to the officer commanding the Virginia, in order that I may be governed by her movements. She will best subserve the interests of the service by remaining where she is. If she remains I can move field guns from Jamestown Island to the front. I esteem it highly important that the Teazer be immediately furnished with a rifled gun and stationed in the Swash Channel below Mulberry Island Point. If she were there, supported by two gunboats or James River tugs, with long-range guns stationed at intervals, their combined fire would sweep Mulberry Island and prevent the enemy from crossing Warwick River. This would possibly strengthen my right flank. It would [do] away with the necessity of the works at Minor's farm.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General.

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YORKTOWN, VA., *April* 12, 1862.

General GEORGE W. RANDOLPH, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: Is there no possible means of getting any more cannon powder for this place? We have scarcely 60 charges per gun for those on the front line and 30 for the rest. We should have at the very least 30,000 sent us immediately and 20,000 more sent as soon afterward as possible.

The enemy is throwing up his works around us now, and we really have not the ammunition to drive him away. He can shell us when he pleases and we cannot spare the powder to return it fully.

By order of Major-General Magruder:

J. THOMAS GOODE,
Major and Chief of Artillery and Ordnance, Yorktown.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded and urgently recommended.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

YORKTOWN, *April* 12, 1862—12 o'clock.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH, *Secretary of War:*

A steam-tug of the enemy has just succeeded in passing up York River and entering Wormley's Creek. She was fired upon by the rifled 32-pounder from Gloucester Point and Yorktown.

There is not a sufficiency of ammunition for these guns, those at Gloucester Point having only about 30 rounds, those at Yorktown having less than 100. It is desirable that more ammunition be forwarded at once. The caliber of the projectile for the gun at Gloucester Point Captain Minor, of the Navy, knows; that of the gun at Yorktown you know. These guns are differently rifled.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 6.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 12, 1862.

The Departments of Norfolk and the Peninsula are embraced for the present within the limit of operations of the Army of Northern Virginia. General J. E. Johnston will direct the military and naval operations in those departments. The commanders of the departments and navy-yards, while conforming to his instructions, will make their reports and requisitions, as heretofore, to the proper departments in Richmond until further orders.

By order of the President:

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding Department of Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, in reply to his relative to the batteries

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on Nansemond River, and to say that General J. E. Johnston started from this city this morning for the purpose of visiting the Peninsula and Norfolk, proceeding first to the Peninsula. A portion of his army is being removed from Northern to Eastern Virginia, and he will make such distribution of it between the Peninsula and Norfolk as the good of the service may seem to require.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

APRIL 13, 1862

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

DEAR SIR: As I am once more in charge of Yorktown, and General Magruder is at the other end of the line, I have taken the liberty of writing to you directly by Captain Tayloe.

I find this place totally unprepared for a siege. There are only 65 rounds per gun for each of the heavy guns, and there ought to be at least ten more heavy guns on the land side. General Johnston thinks that half of the water guns ought to be transferred to the land side.

The enemy is making formidable preparations. He has established a depot at the mouth of Wormley's Creek, as well as at Ship Point. There can be no doubt that he is bringing up heavy siege guns, and when he does open fire it will be terrific. The light guns in Redoubts Nos. 4 and 5 (outside of Yorktown) will be knocked over in half an hour. I fear that those redoubts cannot be held, certainly not with light guns. The woods which I was so anxious to have cut down are still standing, so that the enemy can establish his batteries under cover at 800 yards. In fact, we have had men killed by rifle-shots even inside of the works. We ought to have force enough to make formidable sorties to destroy batteries in process of construction. But with our present inadequate supply of troops we have no men to spare for outside operations.

The occupation of Wormley's Creek puts a new face upon the operations of the enemy. His light steamers can carry heavy guns up to White's Mill, within a mile of Yorktown. He has full possession of all the woods in that direction.

Our wants are, briefly, more infantry—at least 10,000; more heavy guns, and more ammunition. The calibers on the land side are four 32-pounders, navy carriages; one 32-pounder, light carriage; four 24-pounders; one 8-inch mortar; three 12-pounders; one rifled 24-pounder (a poor affair). These guns ought to be abundantly supplied with ammunition. In addition, General Magruder has ordered the removal of five 8-inch columbiads to the land side. These also ought to have a large supply of ammunition. Hand grenades ought to be supplied in large numbers, and at least 50,000 sand bags. Richmond and the Southern Confederacy are dependent upon the contest here.

Please excuse my calling your personal attention to these matters. General Johnston's presence and General Johnston's army may save us; otherwise the contest will be hopeless. It is not conceivable that the troops of General Johnston would fight as well under any other officer. The marvelous energy of General Magruder has accomplished wonders, but the Army of the Potomac will fight better under its own chief.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 14, 1862.

Brigadier-General EARLY,
Commanding Third Division:

SIR: I am instructed by the commanding general to say that he considers the upper dam of Wynn's Mill (now in charge of Colonel Mott's Nineteenth Mississippi) and the woods to the left of it not sufficiently protected.

He desires that General Colston's brigade should strengthen this position, and that General Colston be placed in charge of this upper dam and the woods on the left until the left of his troops shall meet the right of General Rodes' command. One of his regiments must be held in readiness to support the works of Wynn's Mill whenever required by General Wilcox.

General Colston will be under the command of General Wilcox, as the ranking officer of the position, but General Colston may report direct to you in all matters not affecting the arrangements of troops and defense of the particular position assigned him, sending copies to General Wilcox.

In expressing these desires of the commanding general I am instructed to authorize you to place this brigade wherever you think it most needed on your line, reporting your action to these headquarters.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT IN THE FIELD,
Lee's Farm, April 14, 1862.

Col. B. S. EWELL,
Commanding, Williamsburg:

SIR: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to request you to report regularly and at short intervals the progress of the works around Williamsburg, and also to state the nature and the number of the guns in position at Spratley's at this time.

The commanding general hopes that you will push forward as much as possible the defenses of those two places, as forming a second line of defense for the Peninsula, completing the works at Williamsburg first.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

H. M. STANARD.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 14, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

SIR: I have the honor to state that the enemy's shipping shelled Yorktown this evening at a distance of about 2 miles from the fort. They also turned their attention for several hours to a point below Gloucester Point, and after shelling for some time sent out small boats for the purpose apparently of taking soundings. A landing there seems to be contemplated by them. They threw a number of shell from a battery erected in front and to the left of Wynn's Mill (which battery is about the same distance from Wynn's Mill and Yorktown) over Yorktown and into Wynn's Mill last night.

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This evening they have been shelling Wynn's Mill continually for about five hours, with intervals of about six or seven minutes between the shots. No casualties have yet occurred. We have replied very seldom from Wynn's Mill. Our rifle battery, however, delivered beautiful shots at the enemy's shipping.

The 24-pounder recently sent me proved utterly worthless, bursting this evening with the usual charge, fortunately hurting no one.

In consequence of the scarcity of guns, I have been compelled to take six guns from the water side and place them on the land side. Five of these were 8-inch shell guns—one 42-pounder.

Please direct Colonel Gorgas to send me, via York River, an equal number of the same description for the water batteries, with full supply of ammunition.

I am in great want of guns, and desire that you will have them sent to me at once. I am very scarce of ammunition for the rifle 32-pounder, our main dependence. Please direct that a full supply of ammunition be at once sent.

I require disk shell for 32-pounder rifle. Please order them sent. This 32 rifled battery is a great protection, and it keeps the gunboat out of range of the other batteries or coming sufficiently close to do great harm.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 14, 1862.

Brigadier-General TOOMBS,
Curtis' Farm:

SIR: Your note to hand reporting arrival of Eighth, Ninth, and Eleventh Georgia Regiments; also probable arrival of two more.

I am instructed by the commanding general to say that you will direct the last two regiments to remain at King's Mill Wharf until further orders, drawing their supplies from Williamsburg, and that you will order all unnecessary baggage of your command to be left at King's Mill Wharf, bringing forward only that that is necessary to keep your forces in an effective condition.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

YORKTOWN, VA.,
April 15, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

DEAR SIR: As nothing can be procured here without personal attention, I have sent my quartermaster up to get 2,000 tents. The army is diminishing most fearfully by sickness from fatigue, exposure, and stampedes.

The enemy has sent up two gunboats, which have been bombarding

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this place for two days. We have but two guns which can reach them, and these have but 16 rounds of disk shells. The other shells are worthless. The delay of McClellan can only be accounted for in one of two ways: He is either waiting for a formidable mortar and siege train or he is waiting until more iron-clad vessels are made. In the latter case he expects to reduce Yorktown from the water side, the Monitor keeping the Merrimac in check at Old Point. Yesterday the gunboats shelled the woods near Gloucester, feeling for batteries. The reduction of Gloucester would be a serious calamity, but iron-clad boats in the river would be much more so.

The enemy with his water facilities can multiply his artillery indefinitely, and as his is so superior to ours, the result of such a fight cannot be doubtful.

Would it not be better to let our railroads in North Carolina be cut, our cities in South Carolina and Georgia captured, and have the whole Southern army thrown here and crush McClellan? By attempting to hold so many points we have been beaten in detail, and are losing all that we have been trying to hold. We are no match for the Yankees at an artillery play with our wretched ordnance, poor in quality and feeble in quantity. We must fight on the field and trust to the bayonet. If we had 100,000 men here we could march out of the trenches and capture McClellan, unless he has a swift-footed horse. He has been anxious to dine in Richmond and we would be glad to send him up with an escort.

I have been much troubled about the river. If the enemy get a position in rear of us our men cannot stand to their guns on the land side while an assaulting column is coming up to attack the works. The enemy is accumulating men and guns much faster than we are. Every day is a gain to him.

I have a wretched tallow candle stuck in a box and cannot see the lines.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, April 15, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding at Yorktown:

DEAR SIR: I have ordered five 8-inch guns, with 100 rounds each, to be sent to you immediately. Colonel Gorgas will have as many sand bags made as he can find the material for. He hopes to be able to get about 20,000. We are expecting a large supply of powder, now on the road between here and Florida, and will supply you so soon as it arrives. I have directed the Tredegar Works to complete the shaft of the Logan in preference to all other work, and hope to have her on the river in a week at farthest. You will be re-enforced speedily to an extent equal, if not greater, than you require, and General Johnston will assume the command. We can send other artillery so soon as we get the powder, and will do so if necessary.

Colonel Gorgas informs me that he has sent the hand grenades and 10,000 pounds of powder. I send you a cipher, which I have explained to Captain Hill, and will get you to use when you telegraph anything that ought not to be known. Communicate with me freely.

Very truly, yours,

G. W. RANDOLPH.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 15, 1862.

Brigadier-General EARLY,
Commanding Third Division:

I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to inform you that as Major-General [D. H.] Hill has represented that the weak points near Redoubts Nos. 4 and 5 may be pressed by the enemy, in that event you will call upon one of the brigades of Brigadier-General Toombs' division to re-enforce you. The position of this brigade will be in the rear of Colonel Winston's division.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. A. ALSTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 15, 1862.

General HILL, *Yorktown:*

SIR: I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to say that you can retain the negro force which you have. Major Ramseur will be ordered to take charge of the batteries of Redoubts Nos. 4 and 5.

There has been no change except that a rifled piece of Captain Nelson has been ordered to Gloucester Point and a piece of Captain Page has been ordered to Yorktown.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. A. ALSTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 15, 1862.

Brigadier-General MCLAWS,
Commanding Right Flank, Curtis' Farm:

SIR: I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to acknowledge your letter of to-night,* and in reply to say that it was not intended that you should prepare to oppose the crossing of the enemy below Minor's. You acted rightly, therefore, in removing the guns from Minor's. The mistake arose from the use of "Brick House" for "Brick House Creek."

The commanding general directs that in erecting fortifications at Brick House Creek you cause the defensive works to be made on the left flank from Green's to the road, so as to force the enemy to pass under the heavy guns at Mulberry Point. These works he directs you to cause to be constructed as rapidly as possible.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. A. ALSTON,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 16, 1862.

Col. B. S. EWELL, *Williamsburg:*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that General Johnston has telegraphed that some cavalry and artillery are marching down from Rich-

*Not found.

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mond to Charles City Court-House. Please send some one to Charles City Court-House, with instructions to act as a guide, and render assistance to enable them to procure forage, if any is received by them from that country in the vicinity of Charles City Court-House. He will guide them to Williamsburg when they arrive, unless their orders require a different route.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LEE'S FARM, *April* 16, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Virginia again gone into dock. Please hurry her out as soon as possible, particularly as the Patrick Henry and Jamestown, as well as Teazer, are absolutely needed at Mulberry Island to render the works at that place secure and protect my right flank. Please send them up as soon as the Virginia comes out. Quite certain that enemy is preparing to cross Warwick River below Minor's; in which case, without assistance of these vessels, we will be forced to abandon our works on Mulberry Island. Let the Virginia come out and destroy the enemy's ships in York River, take permanent position outside of Old Point Comfort, and if sufficient re-enforcements are sent to crush the enemy McClellan and his army will be in a critical situation.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General.

LEE'S FARM, *April* 16, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Please inform me if my recommendation that two of the tugs on James River be armed and sent to co-operate with the Teazer to prevent the enemy crossing Warwick River has been acted upon. Also if the Patrick Henry and Jamestown are to come back, as they should do, up James River, and how long the Virginia will remain in dock. The Patrick Henry and Jamestown should certainly have been sent before this; they can be of great use here, and none below. The continued absence of the Virginia will be fatal to Richmond, as both my flanks will then be exposed. Any movement of the Virginia should be made known here by the authorities from Richmond, as a movement good in her presence might be fatal in her absence. Please answer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 16, 1862.

Brigadier-General TOOMBS,
Commanding Division:

SIR: Major-General Magruder, finding that the First Georgia Regulars, Colonel Magill, are in position at Dam No. 1, directs that they

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remain at that position to support Colonel Levy, Second Louisiana. The remainder of your First Brigade you will march to Dam No. 1 an hour before daylight to-morrow, and put them there in the trenches between Dams Nos. 1 and 2. You will be in command, and will consult with General Cobb, who is acquainted with the position.

General Cobb will of course be under your command.

Order your men to bring their blankets, knapsacks, and their haversacks filled with provisions.

I am, sir, &c.,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 16, 1862.

Brigadier-General WILCOX:

I am instructed by the commanding general to acknowledge the receipt of your communication inclosing one from Colonel Winston.* Owing to the demoralized condition of the negroes it is impossible to get them to work where firing is going on.

Your communication was only received at past midnight, and the slaves could not reach Wynn's Mill and commence work before daylight. They will be sent to-morrow night, but in the mean time your men must earnestly continue the work.

General Hill's orders concerning traverses to protect the artillery must be carried into effect after the works are completed for the protection of the men. The Sixth Alabama reported to you by mistake. You will order it back to General Rodes, to take up their former position. If you require re-enforcements you will call on General Cobb for a portion of his reserve, or on General Toombs, if he is in command.

The pulling down of the houses may be delayed under the pressing necessity of completing the works.

Yours, very respectfully,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 17, 1862.

Col. B. S. EWELL,
Commanding at Williamsburg:

COLONEL: You are directed to keep Major-General Longstreet and Major-General Magruder advised, at Lee's House, of the approach to Williamsburg by land of General Smith's and General Anderson's brigades by sending couriers beyond Williamsburg. They are marching by land from Richmond. It is very desirable to have some troops in the works at Williamsburg. Suggest this to General Smith, who will leave enough troops to defend the works there.

Colonel Ewell will retain the four 12-pounders, and put them in position with their ammunition and men to serve them.

General Smith will examine the works at Williamsburg and place as many men in them as he may deem sufficient to hold the place in case we should fall back upon them.

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*Not found.

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I am directed by the major-general commanding to write the above.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. M. STANARD,
Acting Aide-de-Camp.

LEE'S FARM, *April* 17, 1862.

Col. B. S. EWELL:

Send a courier to meet General G. W. Smith's command, now marching down the Peninsula, and inform him and all other troops that they must hurry on in the most rapid manner, as we are struggling against great odds here, and every moment is of importance.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

LEE'S FARM, *April* 17, 1862.

GEORGE W. RANDOLPH, *Secretary of War:*

I have urgently to request that you will ask the President to order the two tugs now in Norfolk, and which can be of no possible use there, the Beaufort and Raleigh, to Captain Webb, at Mulberry Island Point, immediately. They each carry a rifled 32-pounder, and would be of immense importance to prevent the enemy from crossing the Warwick and operating on James River. They draw but 5 feet, and can only pass Newport News by keeping close into shore around Pig Point.

I have also to request that when the Merrimac comes out the Patrick Henry be ordered to Mulberry Island Point, the Jamestown being left with the Merrimac; the force there must be left to itself, the step being indispensable to the safety of the army, and would be entirely secure if the ships and gunboats mentioned occupied the positions indicated, the Virginia being at the mouth of the river, and by this means my line would be very much shortened and strengthened, and the army be less in danger than at present. I have run already great risk by the length of my line, waiting for instructions upon this important subject from the War Department.

I have now determined to leave the fort to its fate, having every confidence in its strength, if these arrangements are made.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 13th instant with reference to arms for General Wilcox is received.

I am informed that the arms turned over by General Wilcox at Gordonsville have been distributed to unarmed troops at that point by the ordnance officer in charge. There are, however, in the hands of Captain Alexander a sufficient number of arms not otherwise appropriated to supply the unarmed men of General Wilcox. Those arms are now

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on the way to the Peninsula with the ordnance train of General Johnston, and as soon they arrive can be turned over under the order of that officer to General Wilcox. The train is expected to reach this place to-morrow.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of April 14 is received. Colonel Gorgas reports that there were forwarded to you the 16th instant five 8-inch columbiads, with barbette carriages; 60 rounds canister; 20 rounds grape; 15 rounds each of shot and shell; 110 rounds of powder; one 4.62-inch rifled siege gun, with carriage and limber; 100 copper disk shells for same; 100 cartridge bags; 100 shells for rifled 32-pounder gun (navy); 20 8-inch incendiary shells.

Colonel Gorgas further reports that he is making, with all dispatch, 100 additional shells for rifled 32-pounders, and that they will probably be sent to-morrow.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

APRIL 18, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

The requisitions are sent through you, in the hope that matters may be expedited.*

* * * * * * *

The enemy has felt our strength at various points, principally about the dams. He keeps up an incessant roar of artillery day and night. Our men are very careless and occasionally get hit; but it is astonishing how few have been struck. Shell and ball fall in their camps and even in their cabins without hurting them. We have lost altogether 120 killed and wounded. You know that cannon-shot wounds are generally fatal.

Pierson keeps the Yankee boats at a respectable distance. We would be terribly annoyed but for his battery, and he ought to be supplied liberally with ammunition. The game of the enemy is to get our supplies exhausted by taunting us into firing at him. I find it difficult to restrain the artillery and still more difficult to restrain the infantry. Donelson fell from want of ammunition more than from any other cause.

A few 13-inch mortars would be of great service to us, but the pressing want is infantry. Until we have force enough to make sorties, we have to submit to the pelting of the long-range artillery of the enemy without making a reply.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL.

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* Some personal matter omitted.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *April* 18, 1862.

I. Maj. Gen. J. B. Magruder is assigned to the command of the right of the position commencing at Dam No. 1 and extending to the river.

II. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill is assigned to the command of Yorktown, including the Redoubts Nos. 4 and 5.

III. Maj. Gen. James Longstreet is assigned to the command of the center.

IV. Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith is assigned to the command of the reserve.

By command of General Johnston:

THOS. G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 19, 1862.

In making known to the right wing of the Army of the Peninsula the foregoing orders of the general commanding,* Major-General Magruder deems it a duty he owes to the soldiers of the Army of the Peninsula to express publicly the approval with which their uniform good conduct has inspired him.

Duty has exacted many sacrifices of them and they have been cheerfully made.

The spade and the ax have been no less familiar to their hardy hands than the musket and the sword.

Placed by the determination of our Government upon a narrow tongue of land, washed on three sides by navigable waters and ever menaced in front by the frowning fortress of Monroe, the soldiers of the old Army of the Peninsula have ever kept faithful ward and vigil over that avenue to the heart of the Confederacy intrusted to their watchful care.

By their labors, skill, and courage the broad waters of York and James Rivers have been locked to the progress of the invaders by iron gates, which his energy and fertility of resources have yet been unable to unlock; and when pressed back by overwhelming numbers from that advanced line of defense, which, with a fourth of the army now present under our flag, would have been impregnable even to the vast hordes of our enemy, the little Army of the Peninsula fell back with its front to the marching enemy until it reached the Warwick River, along which its skill and energy had constructed a line of defense sufficient to temporarily stay the swelling advance of invasion.

The major-general late commanding this little army cannot refrain from declaring his gratification at the conduct of the troops, when, on Saturday, the 12th of this month, the immense legions of the enemy made their first demonstration along our line, embracing a front of 10 miles, and defended by a force, exclusive of the fixed garrison of Yorktown and Mulberry Island, of scarce half as many thousand men as there were miles to defend. Whenever along this line the enemy ventured to approach he was met by the roar of your artillery and the unwavering ranks of your soldiery.

To accomplish this almost incredible result, when an army of twenty times your numbers was checked and held at bay along a front of 10

*See General Orders, No. 1, next preceding.

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miles, you hesitated at no marches or vigils, by night or by day, and you shrank from no encounter, however unequal, which your general asked at your hands. And now, when you have fulfilled our whole mission, when you have checked the advance of an exultant enemy, until a breathing spell of countless value to our country could be obtained, during which adequate preparations have been made to meet our foe upon any field he may choose, you can with pride turn over to your gallant and patriotic comrades the position which you have firmly held and protected against such terrible odds, and gladly share with them the duty of guarding this road to the capital of the Confederacy, the arduous labors of which had become too great for the unaided efforts of our little band.

Everything looks bright. We have a gallant army, led by a general whose courage and skill approve him worthy of the universal confidence in which he is held, and the major-general late commanding feels every assurance that in the great drama about to be enacted on this Peninsula the soldiers of that little army which he so long had the honor to command will prove themselves worthy comrades of those gallant warriors who have made the names of Manassas and Leesburg illustrious in Southern history.

By the new arrangements which the exigencies of the service require the late major-general commanding finds himself separated from a portion of the old Army of the Peninsula. How painful this separation is to him he will not venture to express, but he begs to assure them that his heart will follow them in the perils of the coming conflict though it be not his fortune to lead them, and he feels confident that their courage and gallantry will win the esteem and affection of their new general, as it has already done that of their old commander.

To those of his ancient comrades who still remain under his command he can only express the hope that the future, like the past, will only strengthen those kindly ties which unite soldiers in arms for the service of their country.

Comrades, the hour of the decision of our liberties is approaching, and during its eventful minutes let no man rest satisfied with the performance of his duty, for our country demands of each of us that he do more.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

FLAG-SHIP VIRGINIA, *Norfolk, April* 19, 1862.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY:

SIR: As the army of the enemy on the Peninsula has commenced operations on General Magruder's front I have thought it advisable to send an additional naval force into the James River, thinking that it may render service on the general's flank. I therefore, last evening, dispatched the Jamestown, Lieutenant Commanding Barney, and the Raleigh, Lieutenant Commanding Alexander, into the James River, and I have reason to believe that they passed the batteries at Newport News in the night.

I send you herewith a copy of my orders to Lieutenant Commanding Barney.

Things remain in the same condition at Fort Monroe. The enemy's vessels are either directly under the guns of or below the fort.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH TATNALL,
Flag-Officer, Commanding.

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[Inclosure.]

FLAG-SHIP VIRGINIA,
Gosport Navy-Yard, April 18, 1862.

Lieut. Commanding J. N. BARNEY,
Commanding Jamestown:

SIR: You will proceed with the steamer Jamestown, under your command, accompanied by the steamer Raleigh, into the James River at the first favorable opportunity you may find to pass the enemy's batteries at Newport News.

On your arrival in the vicinity of the Confederate forces under Major-General Magruder you will communicate with that officer as soon as possible, and render him in his operations against the enemy all the aid in your power.

On falling in with the steamer Teazer you will take her under your orders, making the force under your command to consist of the Jamestown, the Raleigh, and the Teazer.

You will communicate to me all matters of importance through the Secretary of the Navy or any other more direct way.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH TATNALL,
Flag-Officer, Commanding.

HDQRS. RIGHT FLANK, DEPT. OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 19, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: I beg leave to call the attention of the commanding general to the great difficulty in carrying on the exhausting defense at the dams assigned to my command, particularly at Dam No. 1. Sharpshooters of the enemy have been slowly pushing their way forward, causing it to be extremely dangerous to relieve troops except in the night.

The number of riflemen and good shots at that position is very limited, and I have the honor to request that you will order the Second Mississippi Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor commanding, which is armed with Enfield rifles, and about 275 effective, and now under the command of Brigadier-General Rodes near Yorktown, to report to Brigadier-General Toombs for duty at Dam No. 1.

In spite of all my endeavors to strengthen the redoubts at Dam No. 1 I have every reason to apprehend that the superior number and weight of the enemy's artillery will finally silence our batteries there. I therefore particularly request that one of the light 32-pounders of Captain Richardson's battery, now at Redoubt No. 4, near Yorktown, be ordered to report to Brigadier-General Toombs, to be placed in position at Dam No. 1. It would counteract and perhaps overcome the expected fire of the enemy.

I have further the honor to state that troops at the dams are almost constantly under fire, and that though they exhibit fine spirit they must inevitably become exhausted. There is no reserve there out of the reach of the enemy's fire. I therefore beg leave to request that the troops from our reserve in the rear be ordered to relieve them at least every forty-eight hours, to procure that recuperation which is necessary to success.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HDQRS. RIGHT FLANK, DEPT. OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 19, 1862.

Major-General HILL,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown:

GENERAL: I send you by train at 6 p. m. two 32-pounders, forty-five hundredweight, and I beg that you will send Richardson's battery of two light 32-pounders, which is now at Redoubt No. 4, to me. The enemy is expected to open a heavy fire to-morrow, and I request that Richardson's battery be sent to-night to Brigadier-General Toombs at No. 1, to be placed in position there.

I expect to be able to send a 10-inch columbiad to Yorktown in a few days, and have now two fine 8-inch guns at Mulberry Island, which I will send to Yorktown by the first opportunity.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Lee's Farm, April 20, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Left Wing:

GENERAL: I have just received your communication of this morning.*

The 32-pounder guns were delayed by the overturning of a wagon in the road last evening, and it was thought imprudent to send on the guns in the darkness. They ought to reach you this morning. Platforms are prepared for Richardson's guns at Dam No. 1, and one is to be placed in a position which it is hoped will enfilade the enemy's batteries. No magazines are made for these guns, which I have always moved easily from point to point, with ammunition attached to the battery. I request that you will strengthen Richardson's battery by a detail in charge of a lieutenant from De Gournay's battery.

It is absolutely necessary to oppose heavier guns to the large batteries erected there at Dam No. — by the enemy, or there will be one consequence—defeat.

I think Wynn's Mill requires a heavy gun, and have directed my engineers to prepare a platform for an 8-inch columbaid there. Let Captain Richardson halt his pieces some distance before reaching Dam No. 1 and go forward and report in person to General Semmes; the pieces to be placed, one in front and one at the enfilading battery. This had better be done at dark. Captain Richardson must see whether the platforms are ready and large enough. Addition of earth or poles might make them answer.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 20, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: I beg leave to make the following explanation of my rea-

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sons for desiring to exchange the 32-pounders I have for those you have:

1st. Those I have are on ship carriages, consequently unfit for field services; heavier and of longer range than those you have.

2d. Those you have are on wheels, and have been taken by me about on the Peninsula. I think the lighter guns on wheels better for the field, and long-range, heavier guns for your purposes.

Do you, after this explanation, still decline to exchange?

To save time please send a telegraph by way of Eagle's. At all events answer at once.

Very respectfully, &c., your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 21, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have just received your letter of the 20th* instant, giving the result of your examination of the lines occupied by your army. I regret the defects they exhibit, and trust it may be in your power to remedy them or to assume a position better calculated for your purpose.

Having no knowledge of their character or condition except from report I can offer no suggestions for their improvement, but should be glad to receive your views as to what can best be done under all the circumstances that surround your position, that I may lay them before the President.

The Virginia has not been returned to dock, I am informed, since her last visit to Hampton Roads, but is at the navy-yard having her port shutters adjusted in their places. She is ready for service at any moment. Her commander is Flag-Officer Tatnall. The steamers Patrick Henry, Jamestown, Beaufort, Raleigh, and Teazer, under command of Captain Tucker, are in the mouth of James River.

I have written to-night, that my letter may be ready for your courier in the morning.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 21, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I desire to call the attention of the general commanding to the situation of affairs at Dam No. 1.

The enemy have erected in front of that dam three batteries, with embrasures, mounting fourteen guns, all of which, as far as we know, are rifled and of heavier caliber than any we have in position. It is my opinion, from all the surrounding facts, that the enemy propose a serious

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and formidable demonstration at that point, and that our ability to hold it is contingent upon the effectiveness of our artillery.

Upon the day before yesterday I made a personal reconnaissance of the enemy's batteries and of our position, and discovered a point where, in my opinion, a battery mounted with heavy artillery could command two, if not all, of the batteries of the enemy, and immediately directed earthworks to be thrown up in order to place in position two heavy guns.

We had two 32-pounders mounted on wheels, which I have been frequently in the habit of moving on the Peninsula. I consider that these two guns placed in my new battery would render the batteries of the enemy very nearly untenable. These two guns had been previously placed in Redoubt No. 4, near Yorktown, and recommended themselves to me by the facility with which they could be brought to the dam, and by the ease with which their place could be supplied by two long 32-pounders, mounted on navy carriages, which I had in my possession.

Impressed with these ideas, I requested Major-General Hill to make the exchange of pieces indicated with me, but he declines acquiescing in my proposition, deeming, probably, that he would be weakened by the exchange. Not deterred by his refusel, and deeply impressed with the vital importance of defending Dam No. 1 as far as possible, I have continued my rear battery, determined to mount these or the 32-pounders on navy carriages if no other arrangement should be ordered by the general commanding.

The objections to these latter guns being used in that position are twofold. In the first place the engineer reports that it is exceedingly difficult to mount them in the position chosen, while the nearness of approach of the enemy's sharpshooters under cover will make the work of the cannoneer more than usually hazardous, and, secondly, if from any cause it should be necessary to abandon that position, either by a movement in advance or to the rear, it would be impracticable in the one case to derive any benefit or in the other to serve the guns.

The guns mounted as they are would be used in the main works at Yorktown in embrasures or under bomb-proof with great effect, or as the Redoubt No. 4 is a more permanent and fixed position than Dam No. 1, whether we advance or retreat they could be used if necessary to replace the guns which I desire.

I have therefore to request an order from the general commanding directing the transfer to me of the two 32-pounders mounted on wheels.

I have the honor to be, major, yours, respectfully,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 21, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to present to your attention the fact that on the left bank of York River there is required at least one strong cavalry company for vedette duty. There is at present but one company there (35 men for duty). The distance from West Point to the Rappahannock River is only about 20 miles, and unless we have vedettes stationed as far as the Rappahannock River the enemy might land and commence his march before we were aware of it. There were three cavalry

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companies there, and I thought it necessary to bring two of them over to this side. One or both of these companies I think should be returned, that the vedette duties may be properly performed. Colonel Crump, the commanding officer at Gloucester Point, earnestly makes this request.

By command of Major-General Magruder:

A. G. DICKINSON.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 21, 1862.

Col. B. S. EWELL:

SIR: I am instructed by General Magruder to say to you that the houses unoccupied, or that have been left by their proprietors, be the first that are taken for hospitals. You will next take all houses occupied by males alone. Then all public offices must be vacated and the occupants go into tents.

The guard will be removed from the court-house or other buildings they may occupy and tents be furnished them. Hope's Hotel must also be used before private families are forced to give up their residences. Then, if the sick and wounded should still require accommodations, the house in question (Bowder's), or any other house where it is possible for the inmates to procure accommodations, must be used and the occupants removed.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MONDAY NIGHT, *April* 21, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

The enemy is establishing a battery where by a singular oversight we had not a single gun to reply to it. I have placed two columbiads (8-inch) to reply to them. There are many grave defects in the main bastion, and the demi-bastions are all subject to reverse fires.

As I feel it to be my duty to do everything possible for the defense of Yorktown, I have sent up an officer to get sand bags, and if possible one long-range gun, well supplied with ammunition, together with all possible ammunition for the guns now on hand.

It is very plain that with our defective artillery and munitions we cannot contend with the enemy using his favorite arms. My only hope has been that our force would be so increased as to enable us to meet the rascals in the open field. But they certainly outnumber us now two to one, and our sick list is fearfully increasing. Two-thirds of our men have no tents. Exposure, fatigue, loss of sleep, and hard work are sending hundreds to the rear every day. Could not our whole available force be thrown here and the war ended by one crushing blow?

I think it likely that Burnside has sent a large part of his force here. The enemy is concentrating around Corinth and Yorktown. We must do the same, else we will be beaten at both points, and the Southern

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*I sign this communication, as General Magruder is suffering very much with his arm.—A. G. D.

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Confederacy will cease to exist. I saw an article in the Herald the other day boasting of the greater concentration of their forces.

As the defense of our position is now concerned we are immeasurably the losers. The enemy keeps beyond the range of our guns and pelts us all day long. It is true that but few are killed daily, but our men are kept in the wet trenches and are harassed day and night. Disease will destroy a hundred fold more [than] the Yankee artillery. Protected by these guns, however, he can retire to his comfortable tents and fires, while our poor fellows are in the wet and cold. This is a sad but true picture of our situation. Would that we had force enough to end this state of things by a fair, open field fight. This is our only hope.

Excuse the freedom of an old acquaintance. If intrusive, I hope that my deep interest in our common cause will be my excuse.

Truly, yours,

D. H. HILL.

RICHMOND, *April* 21, 1862.

Major-General PEMBERTON:

A good brigade necessary for the defense of Richmond. Send one as soon as possible. Enemy preparing to advance from Fredericksburg.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 22, 1862.

Lieut. Col. J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance, C. S. Army:

COLONEL: Your letter of this date is received. I desire the 10-inch columbiad, with barbette carriage, to be sent to Drewry's Bluff; the 8-inch columbiad, with casemate carriage, to Mulberry Point, and the other two 8-inch columbiads, with barbette carriages, to be sent to General Beauregard.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 22, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding at Yorktown, reports that the enemy used signal lights across the river and fired signal guns last night. He thinks that this may indicate a dash at Richmond from West Point or Urbana, and suggests that the North Carolina army be brought to that place. The report from Norfolk that ten steam transports left Fort Monroe with troops the day before is more indicative of such a move.

I have heard neither from Jackson nor Field. Ewell's last letter, dated 18th, informed me that he was hourly expecting a summons to Jackson's aid. Stationed here, I can obtain no information except from or through Richmond. Should the enemy's movements on the north or south of you require the withdrawal of these troops you will have to give me notice.

Labor enough has been expended here to make a very strong position, but it has been wretchedly misapplied by the young engineer officers.

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No one but McClellan could have hesitated to attack. The defensive line is far better for him than for us.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 22, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of yesterday was received at 8.30 to-night; the telegraph wire had been broken. I replied by telegraph immediately, but have just learned that the wire is again broken.

I have written to you twice since my arrival to represent what seems to me to be the relative strength of the two armies and the probabilities which seem to me against us. Consequently I think it anything but expedient to divide these forces. I thought that it was so considered by the President at the time of our conference in Richmond.

Should McDowell advance upon the capital, which is certainly probable, the only course for us, in my opinion, is that which I suggested at the time referred to above—to assemble near Richmond as many troops as possible, those from Norfolk, North Carolina, and South Carolina to be joined by this army, then to endeavor to fight the enemy before all his forces are united. To detach troops from this position would be ruin to those left.

When you send me an important dispatch by telegraph it would be well to forward a duplicate by steamer; our telegraph line is so liable to accident. For this purpose there should always be a boat in Richmond and another at the King's Mill Wharf.

Please desire the Quartermaster-General to have the two lower bridges of the Chickahominy repaired. I have made the request by telegraph.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 22, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report for the information of the commanding general that the general in command of my left flank, Brigadier-General Toombs, and Brigadier-General Semmes, in charge at Dam No. 1, report the men (twelve regiments there on duty) have become so worn-out by long exposure in the trenches, labor, alarms, &c., that they will, unless relieved, cease to be effective for action. In this opinion I fully concur, and believe it impossible that men can remain in that position for any length of time without becoming almost useless. This is by far the most exposed part of the line. I therefore most respectfully recommend that the troops from this part of the line be withdrawn and considered as forming for the time being a part of the general reserve, their places being filled from that reserve. This seems the only way to afford the desired relief.

I have the honor to communicate for the information of the commanding general that previous to his arrival I gave an order that the sick should be sent to Richmond. The troops being few in number, it

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was easy to have a rigid examination previous to doing this. I am now informed, however, that large numbers under this order are being sent to Richmond daily, which might recover in a few days, and that the army is thus being rapidly diminished. I therefore respectfully recommend that my order be revoked, and that encampments capable of accommodating the sick be established near Grove's Wharf, at which place a commissary might be stationed and supplies furnished from Richmond; tents are being procured for this purpose.

I have also the honor to recommend that an order be issued directing that the sick arriving in Yorktown be equally divided by the Nelson Hospital, in charge of Dr. Coffin, and the new general hospital, in charge of Dr. Page.

I deem it my duty to make these recommendations to the commanding general, as from long administration of this department I am perhaps better acquainted with their necessity than others more recently arrived, my desire being to render to the commanding general all of the assistance in my power.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 22, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of Northern Virginia:

MAJOR: I have the honor to call the attention of the commanding general to the incomplete defenses on the Curtis farm line (our right flank), connecting Skiff Creek with Lee's Mill, and to request that the particular attention of the chief engineer and his disposable force be given to perfecting them.

The rifle pits already made, connecting the redoubts, are very weak, and a portion of the line so low that the trench is full of water, and the ground rising in front would shorten the fire of our sharpshooters.

The woods obstruct the fire of our artillery, which would probably, if a small belt of woods were removed, command the Mulberry Island road to a long distance, firing down Curtis' field. The possible occupation of Cosnahan's battery (our advanced work) by the enemy at an early day invests this matter with the deepest interest.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 22, 1862.

Colonel EWELL:

SIR: I am instructed to direct you to have merlons constructed and put to the right and left of the navy guns at Spratley's, extending at least five or six yards on each side, and by placing heavy logs over the embrasures and covering them at least 6 feet thick with earth he can protect and casemate the guns in a great measure. This applies to the navy guns on ship carriages. The guns mounted in barbette can remain so for the present. Merlons could be rapidly constructed with sand bags, 5,000 or 6,000 being sufficient, covering them with wet earth to obscure them, so that they would not present a shining mark to the

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enemy. If sand bags could not be had, they could be constructed of earth if the parapets are of sufficient width. Five thousand sand bags have been ordered to be sent to Spratley's.

By command of Major-General Magruder:

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 23, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: A dispatch from General Field to day reports all quiet in his front. The enemy has not crossed the Rappahannock, and the gunboats that were arrested in their ascent by the obstructions at Spottswood Bar have left the river. I presume his numbers are much exaggerated; for if General Augur had the force attributed to him, or if General McDowell had reached Aquia, I think they would have occupied Fredericksburg.

I think it probable that, finding our weakness in that quarter, the enemy will now endeavor to seize upon Fredericksburg, and make use of the Rappahannock as a means of approach. In addition to the force under General Field left by you I have ordered to him two regiments and a light battery from this city, probably over 1,000 men; Starke's Virginia and Orr's South Carolina regiments, over 2,000 men; Gregg's South Carolina brigade, and J. R. Anderson's brigade from North Carolina. I hope this may enable him to occupy his former position, or at least to preserve a strong front against any advance of the enemy.

In my dispatch to you on this subject I had not intended to propose a division of your army, but thought it possible some regiments might, in your opinion, be better applied toward the Rappahannock, as among the reports furnished us was one that the enemy was sending back troops to the Potomac. Should the force now sent to the Rappahannock not be sufficient to arrest a forward movement from that river I will inform you, and then you must consider how far it will involve the necessity of a retrogade movement on your part; but in the mean time, referring to your letter of the 20th, should there be reason, in your opinion, for a withdrawal from the Peninsula, I beg you will state them, with your recommendation, that I may submit them to the President. You can best judge of the difficulties before you and know the interests involved in the question.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 23, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: I have received to-night your two letters of yesterday's date. The points in one have been replied to in my letter of this morning. I informed you of the condition of affairs upon the Rappahannock and such troops as I had been able to send them. I have heard nothing since, except the arrival at Urbana of two large gunboats, one of which apparently contained troops.

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Should an advance be contemplated from the Rappahannock it would require some time to assemble a sufficient force. In that event the course you suggest seems to me the only one we can pursue. I will endeavor to keep you advised of the progress of events north of this place. I will follow your suggestions when any important dispatch is forwarded to you by telegraph. I directed the Quartermaster-General this morning to have the bridge on the Chickahominy repaired. I have heard of no boats going up the bay from Fort Monroe but two steamers and twenty sail vessels. I presume they were going for provisions, and thought probably their object to be seizure of corn from the counties bordering on the Rappahannock.

My last accounts from General Jackson were dated 21st. He was then at Swift Run Gap. Ewell had reached Gordonsville. I have heard nothing of the further advance of the enemy in the valley nor of the junction of Jackson and Ewell.

Field's position, as far as I understand it, is on the Ta River, where it is crossed by the Telegraph road, about 13 miles this side of Fredericksburg. His cavalry was advanced to within 4 miles of Fredericksburg.

I neglected to mention that the only troops that I have heard of having left New Berne was General Reno's brigade, of five regiments, who landed at Elizabeth City, on the Pasquotank, with a view of destroying the lock of the canal to prevent our iron-clad boats from Norfolk reaching Albemarle Sound. They were met at South Mills by the Thirteenth Georgia, Colonel Wright, and McComas' light battery, and driven back with loss, burning the bridges in their rear, taking to their boats, and departing. We captured considerable ammunition, some arms, &c., but I regret to add that Captain McComas fell while gallantly fighting his battery.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 23, 1862.

General TOOMBS:

The capture of a Yankee colonel and a major at Lee's Mill, immediately in front of our position, at the head of their regiment, indicates that re-enforcements are being sent against Lee's Mill. From another prisoner captured to-day and from other sources I gain information that satisfies me that the principal body of the enemy's troops are massed in your front for several miles in depth. I believe the attack will take place to-morrow morning or some time during the day.

Should the enemy make an attack to-morrow morning at or before daylight you will not exchange the regiments from General McLaws' division for those ordered to be relieved, to wit, Levy's, Fifteenth North Carolina, and Taylor's Kentucky, but will fight the battle with the latter, sending the regiments from General McLaws' division without delay back to General McLaws. Relief will be afforded later in the day.

Since communicating with you in regard to the artillery, information has been received that the Washington Artillery will not be sent. I have therefore ordered Captain Richardson's enfilading battery of 32-

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pounder guns to be put in the works to the left of Dam No. 1. That one of the rifle guns now in the middle battery, immediately opposite Dam No. 1, should be removed to an embrasure in the traverse nearly opposite to the same place, and the other rifle gun be placed in the work on the right, where there is an embrasure finished, from which it will be able to fire over the space between the dam and our works opposite. Colonel Cabell has been charged with the execution in detail of these movements.

You will be careful to support with sufficient infantry all artillery, impressing upon the infantry that it is their highest trust to defend it.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Lee's House, April 23, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Right of Position:

The general commanding directs that you will order a brigade from your command to relieve that of Brigadier-General Anderson, now on duty in the trenches at Dam No. 2.

The general commanding wishes this order executed as soon as possible.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from Memorandum Return of the Right Wing, Army of the Peninsula, Maj. Gen. John B. Magruder commanding, for April 23, 1862.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
First (D. R. Jones') Division:						
Infantry	.....	.....	5,568	9,221	.....	.....
Artillery	.....	.....	104	104	2	4
Total	.....	.....	5,672	9,325	2	4
Second (McLaws') Division:						
Infantry	637	10,572	11,209	11,209	.....	.....
Artillery	14	528	542	542	1	45
Total	651	11,100	11,751	11,751	1	45
Heavy Artillery Brigade (R. S. Ewell's)	142	555	697	697	.....	.....
Cavalry (R. Johnston's)	35	626	661	661	.....	.....
Cavalry (J. L. Davis')	.....	194	194	194	.....	.....
Cavalry (Poage's)	.....	112	112	112	.....	.....
Total	177	1,487	1,664	1,664	.....	.....
Grand total	828	12,587	19,087	22,740	3	49

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HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, April 24, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: In the event of our being compelled to fall back from this point it would be a great convenience to have a few days' provision in wagons, which could meet the army on any road we might take. For this object I have above 100 wagons in Richmond, which the officer who bears this is directed to keep loaded and ready to move at a moment's notice, provided you can have a sufficient guard furnished for the safety of the stores. I beg that this may be done if possible. My object is to reduce the size of the wagon trains of our divisions.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

APRIL 24, 1862—2 p. m.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH, *Secretary of War, C. S. A.:*

Two deserters from the enemy were captured in Matthews yesterday, attempting to get home and avoid the fight. They report that sixty mortars have been landed, and that McClellan has made a complete investment of our whole front, and that his works bristle with artillery. They say that he has 200,000 men, most of whom are confident of victory. They report a loss of 400 men on the day Colonel McKinney was killed. If their statements can be relied upon, the enemy has lost near 1,000 since his landing. The men mean to tell a straight tale, but know but little, and are evidently very timid.

Another 24-pounder rifle burst to-day and one of Pierson's 6.4-inch guns. We have but one gun now to keep the shipping at a distance. The smooth-bore guns have no range. Should the gunboats now pass us, all our transports in the river will be lost and the army starved. I regret that we have made a stand upon the water. The enemy can bring up ten guns to our one, and his guns will be infinitely superior. All his batteries against Yorktown are on the other side of Wormley's Creek. We have but few guns that will reach them, and of these few the shells do not burst.

There must be something very rotten in the Ordnance Department. It is a Yankee concern throughout, and I have long been afraid that there was foul play there. Our shells burst at the mouth of the gun or do not burst at all. The metal of which the new guns are made is of the most flimsy and brittle character and the casting is very bad.

I learn that the conscription is not to take place for thirty days. If the men are not called out sooner I fear that we will be beaten. The policy of trying to hold every point leaves us always weaker than the enemy at the vital point. We are committing the mistake of the Austrians in Napoleon's first Italian campaign.

I send up an officer to see whether he can get a 6.4-inch gun for Pierson. I hope that it will be tested before sending. The carriage was torn all to pieces. The battery was full of men, but, strange to say, only 2 were killed and 4 wounded.

The Yankee camps could be reached with a 13-inch mortar. He is establishing an enfilade battery against Pierson at the mouth of Wormley.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL.

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HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 24, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: It has occurred to me that it would not be inappropriate in me to address to you certain reflections upon the present position of our army for the consideration of the general commanding.

Our forces now occupy, in a strictly defensive attitude, the Warwick line, with the exception that that portion of the Warwick River intervening between Lee's Mill and Minor's farm, which was originally embraced within our line, has been abandoned as against any serious demonstration of the enemy.

The purposes that induced me to adopt the Warwick line were:

1st. The necessity of locking up the navigation of James and York Rivers by defending a point on each, and hence the vital consequence of connecting my two extreme flanks by a connection as defensible as possible.

2d. The propriety of having a line to fall back upon whenever driven by superior forces from the advanced line of Harwood's and Young's Mills, which was my favorite line, and which, with 20,000 men, could have been held, in my opinion, against any force of the enemy howsoever vast it might be.

3d. The absolute importance of providing a check against any rapid and overwhelming force of the enemy, behind which re-enforcements could be collected and a breathing-spell obtained, during which other means of defense might be devised.

It will be seen that none of these objects contemplated a permanent line except the first, but rather looked to the temporary necessities of a small force in the presence of one vastly superior.

The first reason, which embraced the means of closing against the enemy the James and York Rivers, necessarily contemplates a fixed and permanent purpose, to be maintained at every hazard not involving the loss of the army. Yet this purpose was only the defense of the rivers, and if that object can be achieved by any other means than a continuous line along Warwick River the purpose nevertheless will be fully realized. This is evidently the opinion of the general commanding, because he has directed the abandonment of the lower portion of the line on Warwick River, influenced doubtless in this determination by a belief in the strength and formidable character of the works at Mulberry Island Point, sufficient in his belief, with the aid of the Virginia, to maintain itself alone and unsupported, except on the water side, by our steamers, against any efforts of the enemy.

Hence the only permanent object originally contemplated by our right line of defense has been considered as realized by reason of the presence of the Virginia at the mouth of James River and the ability of the fortifications on James River therefore to maintain themselves, and thus close the navigation of that important river to the enemy.

The two remaining objects contemplated by me in projecting so long a line of defense were essentially temporary in their nature, and have already been fulfilled and realized in every particular.

My little army has found a temporary refuge behind the Warwick line from the overwhelming numbers of the enemy, and the enemy has been held in check until the general commanding has been able to concentrate here a force which needs no artificial line of defense between it and the enemy. Hence I am unable to discover any reason why the line to the right should be adhered to.

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The line to the left is still essential, as covering our left flank and protecting Yorktown, which is the key of the navigation of the York River.

Regarding the high spirits of our men and their efficiency, it is my belief that in a fair field we would be able to rout the enemy, and hence I regard the artificial obstacles below Wynn's Mill, created to protect a feeble army, as an obstacle to a strong one and a protection to the enemy.

The country now occupied by the enemy is very favorable for defense.

From Wormley's Creek to Ship Point a strong line of redoubts was built by me at a time when I had, and expected to continue to have, sufficient forces to maintain my advanced line. These redoubts the enemy has strengthened by new works, and I have no doubt that Harwood's and Young's Mills, already strong, have been much strengthened by him. We know that in front of our lines he has also thrown up earthworks, and I have but little doubt that with the cautious policy that distinguishes General McClellan he has fortified himself so as to guard against the contingency of a great disaster. Hence, if he should attack our lines and we should repulse him, how can we gather the fruits of our victory when a pursuit of the enemy would, if not obstructed altogether by our defensive line, lead us in a mile or two right against formidable intrenchments protected by artillery?

In my opinion our strength is such that we can abandon the line between the redoubts and Lee's Mill, and, resting our right on Blow's Mill, invite the advance of the enemy.

We could cover the woods in advance of that position with strong pickets so as to prevent the enemy from again fortifying, as he has done on our present line, which I could not prevent on account of my feeble numbers.

If he attempt to drive in our pickets, we can support them and bring on the engagement. Then if we routed him he would be distant from his protecting intrenchments, and we might disorganize him before he reached them or enter with him, besides having in his rear the boggy and difficult stream upon which the mill-dams are constructed.

The foregoing views are submitted simply to meet the theory of a purely defensive policy, which I by no means advocate.

It seems to me that it would be practicable for us by a vigorous attack at daylight to sweep the enemy from our front, which he presses too closely, so that we have scarce breathing space, and in doing this we would capture a large part of the artillery which he has advanced near to us, and if in the attack we should discover that he had become disorganized and panic-struck, we might cautiously, but energetically, press our success to the extent of our ability.

The conclusion that I arrive at is that it is not advisable under the present circumstances to maintain our position on the Warwick line, which was purely a temporary defensive line, and is in my opinion unsuited for aggressive and decisive action, being an obstacle to our advance, not strong enough for defense, and no longer necessary to be held in connection with James River because of the present state of its defenses.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,

Major-General, Comdg. Right Wing, Army of the Peninsula.

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[APRIL 25, 1862.—Brig. Gen. J. R. Anderson's brigade ordered from Richmond to Fredericksburg. See Series I, Vol. XII, Part III, p. 867.]

LEE'S HOUSE, *April* 25, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: I have just read your letter of this date, and Captain Pierson's report to you, inclosed with it.* This report shall be sent to the Secretary of War as soon as practicable.

I have always supposed that McClellan's effort would be to turn our left by getting possession of York River.

I asked by telegraph yesterday for long-range guns for you; the Secretary promised five more than a week ago. I'll telegraph again.

Do I understand you to say that your men already require relief? I suppose not, as there has [been] no occasion yet for fatiguing service. It will be necessary to husband their strength and to require of them but the amount of exertion they are able to endure.

It seems to me too late to make the obstruction to navigation that you propose. It would require, if we had the cable, a long time to prepare the floats and put them in position. It is very unfortunate to be placed in such a command after the enemy has had time to prepare his attacks.

Yours, respectfully and truly,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, April 25, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL, *Yorktown:*

DEAR SIR: I regret extremely the bursting of the rifle guns, but do not attribute it to foul play, as they were cast by Southern founderies. The scarcity of metal has caused the use of inferior qualities, and hence these accidents. The usual test is no safeguard, for the gun may be fired thirty or forty times before it bursts, and overcharges for the purpose of testing weakens the gun.

We have sent you a smooth 10-inch and will send immediately a smooth 8-inch gun; these are safe, and in my judgment are better guns than the rifled guns.

We cannot rely upon the latter, and for the present have ceased to make them. We fully appreciate the policy you speak of, and have pursued it to an extent that has exposed some vital points. The difficulties of your position are great, and if the Peninsula were merely at stake we should not hesitate to evacuate it rather than subject the troops to losses from sickness and the superior artillery of the enemy. But Norfolk would go, almost our entire Navy would be lost, an immense amount of material would be captured, and we should gain no better position nearer to Richmond for the defense of the city. There is much that can't be trusted to paper, and I must request you to destroy this. A short conversation would convince you of the necessity of defending our present position as long as possible.

Very truly, yours,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
[*Secretary of War.*]

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YORKTOWN, VA.,
April 26, 1862—11 a. m.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: The enemy has thrown up a parallel this side of Wormley's Creek and in front of the woods. The work was done last night. He threw up a line of investment before Redoubts 4 and 5 night before last. He has not fired a shot from the land side for a week.

The shipping has fired a good deal, but as yet without hurting any one or anything.

I referred to the present exhaustion of the troops in Yorktown. Ten days ago there was not a traverse constructed against enfilade and reverse fire; there was not a magazine properly covered, and there was scarcely a heavy gun on the land side which could be brought to bear on certain points. All this work has been done by the troops here; in addition, they have had to land all the guns, forage, and commissary stores. I have withdrawn all the negro force from the outworks and will try to relieve the troops here. Fifty more negroes here would give a great relief by being turned over to the quartermaster and commissary. Some 300 negroes were sent up to fix up the outworks ten or fifteen days ago. A large portion of these have reported sick and have left.

Five 8-inch columbiads have arrived since my assignment to duty. These have been placed on the land side. An 8-inch howitzer has also come and been placed in position.

There are now at the wharf a 10-inch columbiad and a 5.82-inch rifle. The latter is a Richmond gun, and I am afraid of it. For every gun we will get the Yankees will have ten of an infinitely superior character. We have about 60 rounds for each heavy gun. I understand that there are about 200 rounds per gun at Jamestown Island. As the island must fall if Yorktown does, would it be practicable to get some ammunition from it?

I would be glad to have authority to draw tents from Williamsburg to take the place of the huts the men are now using. These huts ought to be destroyed.

A company of Hood's riflemen placed in the Peyton battery near the wharf might succeed in stopping the passage of the gunboats by killing the crew. The distance to the main channel is less than half a mile.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—Is Pryor's regiment subject to my orders? It is in my line, but Colston claims it and sends orders.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 26, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I would respectfully call the attention of the general commanding to the fact that Cobb's brigade went into the trenches the day before yesterday and that I have no troops to relieve them, having been compelled to march up from Lee's Mill the other day August's brigade to relieve in part the troops of Toombs' division. Pettigrew's

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and Anderson's brigades relieved Cobb's on two days of this week, and are still convenient to his position. I had understood, as I suppose from the general commanding, that these two brigades would relieve Cobb on successive days, and that Cobb's brigade, during such relief, would constitute a part of the reserve under Major-General Smith.

The favor of an answer is requested.

I have the honor to be, major, yours, respectfully,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Department, Right Wing.

FORT HUGER, HARDEN'S BLUFF,
April 26, 1862.

General GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

GENERAL: I beg leave to call your attention to the condition of affairs at this point, and to ask for some changes which I consider necessary to its efficiency.

I have a garrison consisting of two artillery companies, belonging to an infantry battalion of five companies in all, stationed outside of the fort, and commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Archer, of the Third Virginia Regiment. These two artillery companies were detailed by Colonel Archer as a garrison for this fort, and can, of course, be withdrawn by him whenever he thinks proper to do so. He, as commanding the battalion, claims to command the garrison everywhere except in the fort, and he has a right to withdraw them from the fort, as a part of his command, at any time.

As I am held responsible for the defense of this fort, I do not think it right that the senior officer of the battalion outside should have a right to withdraw my garrison without my consent. Besides this, I think it essential to good order, discipline, and efficiency that the command of the fort should be entirely distinct from that of the infantry force outside of it. That force consists of three companies, which, with the two artillery companies of the garrison, comprise the whole force at this point. It may and probably will be necessary and proper to hold the fort longer than the infantry companies can hold their position, and if it became necessary to withdraw the infantry, the commanding officer could and probably would withdraw the garrison, as forming part of his battalion; or, if he should think proper to withdraw into the fort, he would be commanding officer of the garrison, and of course of the fort.

Under these circumstances I feel compelled to apply to you for three companies of artillery, to be placed under my command, and not to be subject to withdrawal by anybody but the general commanding this department or division. The fort, from causes partly traceable to this mixed command, was and is in an inefficient state.

I inclose a copy of a letter which I addressed to Colonel Archer a few days after I took command here, which resulted in his verbally giving me control of the companies of the garrison as far as he could do so without disintegrating his battalion. Colonel Archer is now the brigade commander at Smithfield, and I feel bound to say that he has shown every disposition to second my views short of breaking up his battalion, but if these two artillery companies are to be retained here as a garrison that disintegration is necessary to its efficiency. I wish

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to avoid it if possible, and therefore I respectfully request that three other companies be ordered here as a garrison. The two companies are not sufficient to man the guns. I have seven guns in barbette and six on navy carriages, and it will require three full companies to afford a relief in working them.

In my judgment the commissary and quartermaster's departments of the garrison should also be under the control of the officer commanding the fort. If it should become necessary at any time for the infantry companies to retreat, the garrison, if it remained behind, would be left without provisions.

I have bomb-proofs for storing provisions in case our supplies should be cut off, but I have no control over the commissary department, and of course cannot lay in supplies.

I know it is the wish of the Government that this place should be held to the last extremity, and it shall be done if I can have control of the garrison; but if the senior officer of the three infantry companies outside can order my men from the guns or come into the fort and take command of it, I must respectfully request to be relieved from the responsibility of defending it.

I most respectfully urge the settlement of this question, as I think that the efficiency of the fort depends upon it. It seems to me most desirable and necessary that the garrison should feel identified with the fort and with the commander of it; should look to him alone for orders, and not be constantly in doubt whether they were to act as infantry or artillery, and whether it best comported with their interest or inclination to obey my orders or those of the senior officer of the battalion outside, each man judging for himself whether he should attach himself to the infantry force or to the garrison in case of a fight.

I have written thus fully on the subject, general, from a sense of duty, and because I am sure that the case has never been brought fairly before the Department before; otherwise such a state of things would not have been allowed to exist.

I would also respectfully call your attention to the fact that all the guns of this fort are long-range guns and all mounted on the water front. I am moving some of the 32-pounders to the land side, but short guns of that caliber and carronades on siege carriages would be much more effective. Five 32s of twenty-seven hundredweight or thirty-three hundredweight and two carronades would, I think, be sufficient.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

J. M. MAURY,
Captain, C. S. Army, Commanding.

In strict official propriety this communication should have been addressed to General Lee, but I knew the many delays it might have been subject to before reaching him, and I thought it important that it should be acted on immediately. So I have presumed upon old acquaintanceship to address it to you unofficially, with the belief that you would take the proper steps to have it brought to his early attention.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

J. M. MAURY.

[Inclosure.]

FORT HUGER, *April* 21, 1862.

Lieut. Col. F. H. ARCHER, *Brigade Commander, Smithfield:*

COLONEL: I understand that there has been some difficulty between the commander of this post and the commander of Fort Huger respect-

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ing authority over the garrison. I have found some things contrary to my idea of what is right, and I deem it due to you and to myself to state them and request their correction, and to tell you frankly what will be my action in the mean time.

I was ordered here by General Magruder, by the desire of General Lee, to "assume command of the battery" at this place. I know nothing of the connection between the artillery companies of the garrison and the infantry companies under your command, but by the terms of my orders I am held responsible for the efficiency of this battery, and to secure that I must have entire control of the garrison. Under the present, which I presume has your sanction, I have not the necessary control. It is necessary that I should have my own guard, my own officer of the day, and my own adjutant. I must also have the power to punish any officer or man who may merit it, or I cannot have the discipline or efficiency which are requisite and for which I am held responsible. I find one of the officers under my command, Lieut. A. M. Braxton, of the Varina Artillery, detailed as quartermaster and commissary of the battalion. I need his services at the guns, and I respectfully request that he be relieved from his present duty and ordered to rejoin his company. Another of the lieutenants under my command, Lieutenant Baskerville, of White's artillery, was a day or two since detailed and sent to Norfolk for powder without my knowledge or consent.

I find all the officers of the two artillery companies under my command detailed for battalion duty as officers of day and guard, thus taking them from my command, and I find infantry officers of day and guard, over whom I have no control, exercising authority in my command. These things cannot be and the efficiency of the battery maintained.

The garrison is too small as it is. The officers and men need much instruction and drill. I need every officer of both companies, and must respectfully request that they be relieved from battalion duty entirely, and that they shall not be detailed for any duty whatever except by me. It is essential that they should devote every hour of their time to drill and study. We may at any moment be called upon to fight a desperate fight, requiring all the skill and knowledge and practice that can be brought to bear to make it successful, and I find that some of the officers and most of the men do not know how to load or fire a gun. I consider it essential that every nerve be strained to acquire skill and efficiency in the branch of the service to which they belong, and therefore I must respectfully request, for the sake of good order and discipline and efficiency, that the companies be turned over entirely to me until the Secretary of War decides whether this garrison is under the command of the senior officer of the battalion or under my command.

All the officers and men are dissatisfied with the present state of affairs, and cannot feel that interest and spirit which are essential to good discipline and efficiency.

I deem myself fully justified by my orders in altering the existing arrangement to some extent. I have therefore published an order (General Orders, No. 1), a copy of which I send you,* which, as far as I am aware, does not conflict with any order that you have given.

It is due to you in courtesy as well as in right that I should state my view of the case, and ask your concurrence therein, before making

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a full and fair statement of the whole matter to the Secretary of War for his decision. I must respectfully request an early answer.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. M. MAURY,
Captain, C. S. Army, Commanding Fort.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, April 27, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: Our scouts report that the enemy has two hundred and fifty transports at Ship Point, one-third of them steamers and five hundred bateaux. He has been preparing with elaborate caution to attack Yorktown with heavy artillery. It is certain that our guns will soon be dismounted and York River open to him. He will then doubtless transport an army up that river and so compel me to fall back. It will then be necessary to evacuate Norfolk, bringing the troops to Richmond. I am told that two small iron-clad vessels have recently come to Old Point. This will render complete obstruction of the channel of James River necessary.

I suppose that the vessels of war of the United States now in Hampton Roads will join in the attack upon our batteries, so that James River for the time will not be threatened. I have asked Commander Tatnall if the Virginia could, under such circumstances, assist us. Serious damage to his transport fleet would at the least delay the enemy's movements. I doubt, however, if the Virginia can pass Fort Monroe and the iron-clad vessels.

Captain Tucker with the Patrick Henry and three smaller vessels is near Mulberry Point. When compelled to retire they can pass the obstruction below Richmond before it is closed.

The weather is most unpropitious; the roads as bad as possible. The march of an army now with its wagons and artillery would be very difficult. The passage of the Federal army up York River would render a rapid movement necessary on our part.

Do urge the work on the bridges of the Chickahominy.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, April 27, 1862.

General B. HUGER,
Commanding Department of Norfolk:

SIR: The enemy is apparently preparing to attack Yorktown with a powerful artillery. Should he succeed in dismounting our guns he will be able, with the help of his numerous transports, said now to be waiting at Ship Point, to turn this position by ascending York River. Such a move will of course compel this army to abandon the Peninsula. It will then be a question how long we can hold James River by means of the Virginia and other vessels of war and the batteries on the southern shore. The possession of James River would make Norfolk untenable. It is necessary, therefore, that you should be prepared for such a contingency, and hold your troops in readiness to move toward Richmond

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with the utmost promptness. As little public property as possible should be left to the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 27, 1862.

Capt. J. R. TUCKER, C. S. N.,
Mulberry Point:

CAPTAIN: I am directed by Major-General Magruder to say to you that information has been received at these headquarters that the Teazer reports the enemy in large force at the mouth of the Warwick River, and that it is the wish of General Johnston that you should send a light-draught steamer to the mouth of the Warwick River to observe and oppose the passage of the enemy over the river.

I have the honor to be, captain, yours, respectfully,

J. L. BRENT,
Acting Aide-de-Camp.

SALUDA, *April 27*, 1862—5 p. m.

Col. CHARLES A. CRUMP,
Commanding Forces at Gloucester Point:

I have just received intelligence from a reliable source that there are nine steamers in the Piankitank, about the mouth, which were stationary, and four or five barges had left them full of armed men proceeding up the river, and when last seen were above Dr. Taylor's, about 10 miles from the mouth.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. A. OLIVER,
Lieutenant, Commanding Picket.

P. S.—I have hardly enough men to attend to the Rappahannock, or I would send down a picket.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, April 28, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have this evening suggested to you by telegraph to order the immediate enrollment of all men here of volunteer regiments whose terms of service expired before the 16th April; otherwise we shall lose, it is said by their superior officers, nearly all the South Carolinians and others. These troops were reorganizing when your official opinion that they are entitled to discharge was communicated to them by Lieutenant-Colonel Baxter. I suggested the transmission of the order by telegraph.

Without the retaining in service all the troops now here it will be impossible to retain this position, now too extensive for the strength of the army.

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Unless you can retain the troops in service whose terms expired before the 16th instant, or rather subject them immediately to conscription, this army will be weakened beyond calculation. Re-elections have greatly reduced its value.

Please answer by telegraph.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, April 28, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: I have had the honor to receive your letter in relation to assignment of Brig. Gen. H. A. Wise to duty with this army.

As I told you in Richmond these troops are already organized. The number of brigadier-generals is rather greater than that required. A command for General Wise cannot, therefore, be formed without reorganizing the army. With the enemy at rifle shot from us that cannot be done.

General Wise was ordered to join me with his troops. The troops were afterward sent elsewhere, dispersed. I proposed to you and the honorable Secretary of War that the general should be permitted to reorganize those troops and join me with them. This suggestion seemed to me to have your approval. I respectfully repeat it.

Gloucester Point is now commanded by an officer who is said to be very efficient; he has had opportunity to study its defense. I submit to your judgment if it is expedient to put a new man in command (new in regard to that position, I mean) just as the enemy is about to attack.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

APRIL 28, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding C. S. Forces:

GENERAL: Nothing new this morning to report except the arrival of transports with troops at the mouth of Wormley. Two steamers came in about dark, one certainly loaded with troops. The works were considerably strengthened in front of us last night. There are now seven gunboats in the offing.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. RIGHT WING, ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 28, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT:

SIR: I have the honor to state that out of twelve regiments now at Dam No. 1 there are four companies, armed with long-range guns, and constitute the only corps of sharpshooters. They have almost constantly been on duty, and, as their position is a dangerous one, I would respectfully ask that one of General Hood's Texas regiments, or any other regiment armed with long-range guns, be detailed to constitute, with

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the four already there, a corps of sharpshooters to act against the enemy at that point. They could be divided into three reliefs, and render essential service. As it is, the enemy has vastly the advantage of us, and shoot at every man and horse they see exposed.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIGADE, DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK,
South Mills, N. C., April 28, 1862—1 p. m.

Major-General HUGER, *Commanding Department:*

GENERAL: The enemy's gunboats are reported in motion up the river, but only two as yet as far as Opossum Quarter Landing. Colonel Brabble, Thirty-second North Carolina Volunteers, having refused to obey orders, is sent to you under charges; also Adjutant Parker. I hope they will be dismissed without delay, for if the orders are not obeyed we have no army. I send a copy of his letter. He positively refused me in person. Adjutant Parker refused to form his regiment.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. BLANCHARD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Brigade.

P. S.—1.15 p. m. Three boats reported.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK,
Norfolk, Va., April 28, 1862.

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of War.

I recommend that the President dismiss Colonel Brabble for positive and willful disobedience of orders, especially when the order was to move toward the enemy. The letter of Colonel Brabble is sufficient evidence.

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

APRIL 30, 1862.

Respectfully referred to General Lee.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Inclosure.]

RICHARDSON'S FARM, *April* 18, 1862.

Capt. W. L. RIDDICK, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR: I have received an order from headquarters to send a company near the mouth of the canal to protect laborers to-day. The order has not been obeyed, as I cannot get a company there without marching it 7 miles; whereas a company can be sent from the other side by marching one-third of that distance.

I suppose that it must have been thought that I could send the company by [way] of the river, but this is rendered impossible by the obstructions as well as want of transportation. However, if it was meant

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that one of my companies should march 7 miles rather than a company of the Third Georgia or First Louisiana should march half the distance, I must say, though with all respect for the general, that I would prefer to suffer the consequences of disobedience, even should the penalty be death, rather than execute it. My men have been working hard in throwing up intrenchments and obstructing the river, while I understand the forces on the other side have had negroes to help them. While engaged in a war for what I claim to be my rights I cannot submit to what I believe to be unjust discrimination.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. C. BRABBLE,
Commanding, Richardson's Farm.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 109. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Lee's Farm, April* 28, 1862.

* * * * * * *

II. Brigadier-General Semmes will report to Major-General Magruder for the command of a brigade, composed of the Fifteenth Virginia, Tenth Georgia, Tenth Louisiana Regiments, and the Louisiana Battalion, now temporarily commanded by Colonel August.

By command of General Johnston:

THOS. G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *Lee's House, April* 29, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

SIR: I suspect that McClellan is waiting for iron-clad war vessels for James River. They would enable him to reach Richmond three days before these troops, setting out at the same time. Should such a move be made, the fall of Richmond would be inevitable, unless we anticipate it. I cannot account otherwise than by this supposition for the long delay here. The fight for Yorktown, as I said in Richmond, must be one of artillery, in which we cannot win. The result is certain; the time only doubtful.

Should the attack upon Yorktown be made earnestly, we cannot prevent its fall; nor can it hold out more than a few hours. We must abandon the Peninsula soon. As two or three days, more or less, can signify little, I think it best for the sake of the capital to do it now, to put the army in position to defend Richmond. I shall therefore move as soon as can be done conveniently, looking to the condition of the roads and the time necessary for the corresponding movement from Norfolk.

The wretched condition of the roads may cause us heavy losses of materials on the march.

The Virginia should hold Hampton Roads as long as may be necessary to prevent the enemy from cutting off the troops now in Norfolk, if she can do so.

As this is an important movement, I think it necessary that the intention to make it should be reported to the Government.

Should the enemy approach Richmond in this manner, I apprehend we should have there concentrated the largest force you can collect.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK,
April 29, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: Up to last evening the enemy near Elizabeth City remained on board their vessels. A few gunboats ran some distance up the river, but returned. As I told you yesterday, the force now afloat can be moved in a few hours from any point along the Albemarle Sound or Chowan River.

I received yesterday a letter from General J. E. Johnston informing me the enemy were preparing to attack Yorktown with a powerful artillery, and if he succeeds in dismounting our guns, which he thinks inevitable, the numerous transports now waiting at Ship Point can turn his position by ascending York River, and the question comes, how long can we hold James River and the batteries on the south shore. The possession of James River by the enemy would make Norfolk untenable. He desires I should reflect on the occurrence of this contingency and be prepared for a prompt movement, and if compelled to move, as little public property as possible should be left for the enemy.

I have reflected, but do not see that I can make much preparation beforehand, and have so written to General Johnston. If I abandon my position the enemy are likely to occupy it at once, and as I have this large force afloat south of me, if they get another on James River they can select their points of landing and shut me in. The guns at the different batteries with our limited means could not be moved in weeks. Ammunition might be destroyed, but this is all, and the navy-yard, which contains more property than the rest of the country, is not under my control. It seems to me the best I can do is to be prepared to repel promptly any attack and defend the position as long as I can. In the contingency likely to happen referred to by General Johnston I am in a *cul-de-sac.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK,
April 29, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Captain Norris handed me yesterday your letter of the 27th instant. I have reflected what to do on the occurrence of the contingency you allude to. For a week past the enemy has kept a brigade afloat near Elizabeth City, N. C., which can move to any point of Chowan River. This force landed on night of 18th five or six regiments, under General Reno, and marched on South Mills, where they were met by the Third Georgia Regiment and six pieces of artillery and repulsed with great loss. At night the few companies who had stopped them retired, and next day found the enemy had also retired to their boats, leaving 17 wounded on the field, and over 1,000 pounds powder in barrels, arms, ammunition, &c. It is supposed their object was to destroy the locks of the Dismal Swamp Canal. These regiments were from New Berne and Roanoke Island. They have been re-enforced during the week, and are now afloat to the south of me.

If the enemy gets possession of the James River, and can have a moving force on it which he can land where he pleases, I do not see

* See Huger to Randolph, August 22 and 25, p. 681.

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how I can meet such a force, and they can land where they please. If they get possession of the country west of this place (through which the railroads pass), as well as the waters on the other three sides, any escape from here is very doubtful.

It would not do now to give up any part of the position, as they would at once occupy it. I cannot begin to move the public property. The guns scattered at the different batteries could not be removed with our means in weeks, and where to move them to? The ammunition could be destroyed when not wanted. As to the valuable establishment, the navy-yard, which has more public property than the rest of the country, it is not under my control, and others must determine concerning it. Very little can be removed from there.

I do not see what preparation I can make, if any, for the contingency but to repel every attack as promptly as possible and defend the position as long as I can.

When they have the waters on both sides of me, you can calculate how long I can hold out as well as I can.

Very respectfully and truly, yours, &c.,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 29, 1862.

Col. J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance Bureau, Richmond, Va.:

COLONEL: I have the honor to state that General Johnston has informed me that he does not want any more heavy guns nor ammunition for them sent to Yorktown for the present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING OF ARMY,
Lee's Farm, April 29, 1862.

HON. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have learned that complaints have been made to you of the treatment of the slaves employed in this army.

It is quite true that much hardship has been endured by the negroes in the recent prosecution of the defensive works on our lines; but this has been unavoidable, owing to the constant and long-continued wet weather. Every precaution has been adopted to secure their health and safety as far as circumstances would allow. The soldiers, however, have been more exposed and have suffered far more than the slaves. The latter have always slept under cover and have had fires to make them comfortable, whilst the men have been working in the rain, have stood in the trenches and rifle pits in mud and water almost knee-deep, without shelter, fire, or sufficient food. There has been sickness among the soldiers and the slaves, but far more among the former than the latter.

I write this for your information, supposing that you might not know the facts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing, Army of Virginia.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 30, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 27th, reporting the condition of affairs on the Peninsula, has been received.

The preparation of bateaux by the enemy indicates, I think, an attack on Gloucester Point, in conjunction with his general attack upon your lines. The presence of the Virginia in York River would disconcert that part of his plan as well as the ascent of York River. I have conversed with the Secretary of the Navy, who thinks the Virginia should repair to Yorktown, and that it might be accomplished at night. Should you, after hearing from Flag-Officer Tatnall, determine upon this measure, could you arrange a signal to call the steamer to you? Should you not be able to designate the precise time? Coal will have to be prepared for her at Yorktown. Do you wish any sent? I trust you may be able to retain command of York River, but we must make every preparation for a disaster, which may occur, and I will write to General Huger to prepare him for the contingency apprehended.

Operations for obstructing the channel of the James River at a point 8 miles below the city have been in progress ever since my arrival. I regret to state it is not completed, and the work has been much retarded by freshets and the want of means of transportation, all of the latter being in requisition for troops and provisions for your army.

The quartermaster reports that the bridges across the Chickahominy in this vicinity are repaired, except one, which will be finished to-morrow. Bottom's, Long, and Forge Bridges below required much work. Workmen are now engaged on them, and they are directed to use every exertion to complete them.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., April 30, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding Department of Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: The movements of the enemy near Elizabeth City do not seem to indicate a real attack, and is probably intended to distract attention from other points, or to watch that entrance into the sound, by which they seem to apprehend the introduction of our gunboats. It will be necessary for your scouts to be vigilant and your troops prepared.

The subject of General Johnston's letter is of a more serious nature. If he is obliged to retire from the Peninsula and thus liberate the enemy's gunboats, &c., his attention will naturally be turned to Norfolk. His possession of James River would render the evacuation of Norfolk in time necessary. Its possibility as well as practicability had better therefore be considered now, in order that it be executed at the most opportune moment. I need hardly suggest to you that the troops be put in as movable condition as possible; that all surplus stores, &c., be sent to a proper place of safety, and that without evacuating any place that you consider important, what is not deemed essential for its defense be withdrawn. Your knowledge of what would be required in

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the event of the necessity contemplated will point out the proper course to be pursued, and I feel every assurance that it will be pursued with discretion, judgment, and energy. It will be necessary for you to see the means of transportations, routes, &c. Being disembarrassed of surplus stores and other articles, the troops can be withdrawn in the presence of the enemy with order and celerity. The safety of all ammunition must require your particular attention. Whatever arrangements you find it necessary to make will of course be preparatory and be done quietly.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, April 30, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: We are engaged in a species of warfare at which we can never win.

It is plain that General McClellan will adhere to the system adopted by him last summer, and depend for success upon artillery and engineering. We can compete with him in neither.

We must therefore change our course, take the offensive, collect all the troops we have in the East and cross the Potomac with them, while Beauregard, with all we have in the West, invades Ohio.

Our troops have always wished for the offensive, and so does the country. Please submit this suggestion to the President. We can have no success while McClellan is allowed, as he is by our defensive, to choose his mode of warfare.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

NORFOLK, VA,, *April* 30, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Military District:

GENERAL: I had the honor to receive your letter of the 28th instant as the Virginia was on the point of dropping down to Hampton Roads, and deferred the movement until I could consult competent pilots and others as to the feasibility of running the Virginia by the forts and to the position occupied by the enemy's fleet at the mouth of the Poquosin River.

I inclose you a copy of the opinion of the two pilots of the ship, which, condensed, is that on a day clear enough for the land to be seen there would be no difficulty in reaching York River, but that at night it could not be undertaken with a reasonable prospect of success. This would of course oblige me to pass the forts by light; after which I should have to contend with the squadron of men-of-war below the forts, which is large, and includes the Minnesota, the iron-clad steamers Monitor, Naugatuck, and Galena, and the powerful steamer Vanderbilt, fitted with a ram expressly to attack the Virginia.

Should I pass the forts and ships at night the latter (their steam is always up) would follow me, and those of lighter draught than 16 feet, taking a shorter route, would reach the Poquosin long before me, while

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the larger vessels, taking the same route as the Virginia (having much greater speed), would also reach the river before me if they declined engaging her on the route.

On reaching the Poquosin, if the pilots be right I should find the enemy's transports out of my reach, and thus at a great hazard and without deriving any advantage abandon the defense of Norfolk and the moral effect produced by the presence of the Virginia on the enemy's operations in the James River.

I am, general, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH TATNALL,
Flag-Officer, Commanding.

LEE'S FARM, *April* 30, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch in relation to negroes just received. We want at least 800 negroes; they are indispensable. These can be returned when others are sent in their places.

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HDQRS. RIGHT WING, DEPARTMENT OF THE PENINSULA,
Lee's Farm, April 30, 1862.

Brigadier-General MCLAWS,
Comdg. Second Div., Right Wing:

I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to inform you that Colonel Goode, with the cavalry at present with him, has been ordered to report to you.

Major-General Magruder directs that two regiments of infantry, one battery of artillery, and Colonel Goode's cavalry be at once ordered, under such commander as you may select, to proceed to the lower portion of the Peninsula, in the vicinity of the McIntosh house, and make such demonstrations as to cause the impression that we are prepared to receive them should they attempt to cross the river.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE PENINSULA,
RIGHT WING, ARMY NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Lee's Farm, April 30, 1862.

Major RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I referred a communication directly to General Johnston from Brigadier-General Jones in relation to the state of disorganization and disaffection in the First Kentucky Regiment, belonging to the Army of the Potomac, in which Brigadier-General Jones recommended that this regiment, which has just come out of the trenches, be relieved temporarily by one of the regiments of the reserve, of Major-General Smith's command, which has had little duty to perform as yet, and is perfectly fresh, whilst the other regiments in the front have been exposed to the weather without fire most of the time and under fire of the enemy, and should at least have occasional relief.

To this communication Lieutenant-Colonel Cary, assistant inspector-

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general of this department, informs me that General Johnston answers in effect that the matter remains with me. This cannot be so, as relief is especially asked by Brigadier-General Jones to come from the reserve under command of Major-General Smith.

The complaint, it seems to me, is universal and the dissatisfaction great, that all the duty is imposed on a part of the army and none on the reserves.

Some companies of the artillery ought to be relieved without delay; otherwise they will be unable to serve their pieces.

These companies belonged to the Army of the Peninsula, and have slept on the platforms of their guns and been under fire without relief since the 4th of April continuously. They can keep no fires; many of them have chills and fevers; all of them should be put in the reserve for a short time, I think, and what is called reserve artillery should be substituted in their places.

These are gallant and devoted men, and I am naturally anxious that they should not be kept longer in their present position than they can bear.

I most respectfully request that the commanding general will cause Lieutenant-Colonel Brown's reasonable application for relief for a portion of his artillery to be granted without delay by Brigadier-General Pendleton, chief of artillery, and that a regiment from Smith's reserve be ordered to relieve for twenty-four hours the First Kentucky Regiment to enable its officers to organize it. This cannot be done by me, as I have no troops with which to do it.

I have the satisfaction to report for the information of the general commanding that I addressed the South Carolinians, Kershaw's brigade, yesterday afternoon, after which all re-enlisted into service without a murmur, and I believe, if the suggestion of Brigadier-General Jones is acceded to by the commanding general, there will be no further trouble, but if it once commences there is no knowing where it may end, for I have intimation that there is at least one officer of rank who sanctions by his language the idea that the conscription law is unconstitutional and not binding upon the men, and the men, it is said, know his views.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER.

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*Organization of the Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston, on the Peninsula, about April 30, 1862.**

RIGHT OF POSITION.—Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER commanding.

McLAWS' DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. L. McLAWS commanding.

McLaws' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. L. McLAWS commanding.

5th Louisiana	744	
10th Louisiana	595	
15th Virginia	476	
Noland's battalion	162	
Garrett's battery	50	
Young's battery	57	
		2,084

* Original not dated.

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Griffith's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. RICHARD GRIFFITH commanding.

1st Louisiana Battalion	315	
13th Mississippi	640	
18th Mississippi	684	
21st Mississippi	792	
Cosnahan's battery	51	
Howitzer battery	103	
Manly's battery	37	
Read's battery	72	
Sands' battery	80	
		2,774

Kershaw's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW commanding.

2d South Carolina	616	
3d South Carolina	550	
7th South Carolina	581	
8th South Carolina	467	
Gracie's battalion	276	
Kemper's battery	77	
		2,567

Cobb's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HOWELL COBB commanding.

16th Georgia	488	
24th Georgia	660	
Cobb's Georgia Legion	594	
2d Louisiana	782	
17th Mississippi	692	
15th North Carolina	532	
Page's battery	48	
		3,796

IN RESERVE.

10th Georgia, Col. A. Cumming commanding	582
Effective strength of McLaws' division	11,803

TOOMBS' DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. R. TOOMBS commanding.

Toombs' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. TOOMBS commanding.

1st Georgia (Regulars)	367	
2d Georgia	607	
15th Georgia	441	
17th Georgia	398	
38th Virginia	544	
		2,357

D. R. Jones' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. P. J. SEMMES commanding.

7th Georgia	611	
8th Georgia	251	
9th Georgia	411	
11th Georgia	573	
1st Kentucky	496	
		2,342
Total effective strength of Toombs' division		4,699

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FORCES AT WILLIAMSBURG.

Col. B. S. EWELL commanding.

32d Virginia (one company)	29	
52d Virginia Militia	30	
68th Virginia Militia	20	
115th Virginia Militia	40	
Old Dominion Rifles	60	
Allen's artillery battalion	500	
Companies artillery B and C	121	
		800
Total effective strength of the right wing, Major-General Magruder commanding		17,302

CENTER OF POSITION.—Maj. Gen. JAMES LONGSTREET commanding.

A. P. Hill's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. A. P. HILL commanding.

1st Virginia	400	
7th Virginia	700	
11th Virginia	750	
17th Virginia	600	
Rogers' battery	62	
		2,512

Anderson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON commanding.

4th South Carolina	450	
5th South Carolina	650	
6th South Carolina	550	
9th South Carolina	450	
Stribling's battery	68	
		2,168

Colston's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. E. COLSTON commanding.

3d Virginia	550	
13th North Carolina	575	
14th North Carolina	625	
		1,750

Pickett's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. G. E. PICKETT commanding.

8th Virginia	450	
18th Virginia	700	
19th Virginia	650	
28th Virginia	600	
Dearing's battery	60	
		2,460

Wilcox's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. C. M. WILCOX commanding.

9th Alabama	550	
10th Alabama	550	
11th Alabama	656	
19th Mississippi	800	
Stanard's battery	60	
		2,616

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Pryor's Brigade.

Col. J. A. WINSTON commanding.

8th Alabama	800	
14th Alabama	700	
14th Louisiana	750	
Macon's battery	60	
		2,310
Total effective strength of the forces in the center of position, commanded by Maj. Gen. James Longstreet		13,816

LEFT OF POSITION.—Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL commanding.

EARLY'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. J. A. EARLY commanding.

Early's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. A. EARLY commanding.

20th Georgia	560	
5th North Carolina	460	
23d North Carolina	540	
24th Virginia	740	
Jeff. Davis Artillery	80	
		2,380

Rodes' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. E. RODES commanding.

5th Alabama	660	
6th Alabama	1,100	
12th Alabama	550	
12th Mississippi	650	
King William Artillery	80	
		3,040

DETACHED.

Colonel WARD commanding.

2d Florida	530	
2d Mississippi Battalion	360	
		890
Total Brig. Gen. J. A. Early's division		6,310

RAINS' DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS commanding.

Rains' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. G. J. RAINS commanding.

Forces within the post (Yorktown):

13th Alabama	474	
26th Alabama	283	
6th Georgia	703	
23d Georgia	370	
		1,830
Nineteen heavy batteries		1,151

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Featherston's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. W. S. FEATHERSTON commanding.

Outside the post:		
27th Georgia	428	
28th Georgia	518	
4th North Carolina	739	
49th Virginia	539	
		2,224

Gloucester Point.

Colonel CRUMP commanding.

46th Virginia	356	
9th Virginia Militia	29	
21st Virginia Militia	39	
61st Virginia Militia	201	
Detachment cavalry	18	
Detachment from Eastern Shore	58	
Matthews Light Dragoons	40	
Armistead's battery	46	
Battalion heavy artillery	332	
		1,119
Total Rains' division		6,324
Total effective strength left of position		12,634

RESERVE.—Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH commanding.

WHITING'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING commanding.

Whiting's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING commanding.

4th Alabama	459	
2d Mississippi	477	
11th Mississippi	504	
6th North Carolina	715	
Imboden's battery	111	
Reilly's battery	132	
		2,398

Hood's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. B. HOOD commanding.

18th Georgia	634	
1st Texas	477	
4th Texas	470	
5th Texas	341	
		1,922

Hampton's Brigade.

Col. W. HAMPTON commanding.

14th Georgia	379	
19th Georgia	395	
16th North Carolina	721	
Hampton Legion	658	
Moody's battery	72	
		2,225
Total Brigadier General Whiting's division		6,545

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Anderson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. S. R. ANDERSON commanding.

1st Tennessee 7th Tennessee 14th Tennessee Braxton's battery	Estimated	2,030

Pettigrew's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. J. PETTIGREW commanding.

Arkansas Battalion	146	
35th Georgia	545	
22d North Carolina	752	
47th Virginia	444	
Andrews' battery	130	
		2,017
Total effective strength of reserve, commanded by Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith		10,592

Cavalry Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. E. B. STUART commanding.

1st Virginia Cavalry	437
4th Virginia Cavalry	540
Jeff. Davis Legion	171
Stuart Horse Artillery	141
Total	1,289

Reserve Artillery.

Brig. Gen. W. N. PENDLETON commanding.

	Pieces.
Pendleton's artillery corps	36
Washington Artillery	20
Total	56

No numbers given.

RECAPITULATION.

Total effective strength right wing, Major-General Magruder commanding	17,302
Total effective strength center of position, Major-General Longstreet commanding	13,816
Total effective strength left of position, Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill commanding	12,634
Total effective strength of reserve, Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith commanding	10,592
Total effective strength cavalry brigade, Brig. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart commanding	1,289
Total	55,633

Reserve Artillery, Brigadier-General Pendleton commanding, 56 pieces.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 1, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Yorktown, Va.:

Accepting your conclusion that you must soon retire, arrangements

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are commenced for the abandonment of navy-yard and removal of public property both from Norfolk and Peninsula. Your announcement to-day that you will withdraw to-morrow takes us by surprise, and must involve enormous losses, including unfinished gunboats. Will the safety of your army allow more time?

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 1, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON, *Yorktown, Va.:*

It is a necessity that you should send General Smith or General Longstreet to the Army of the North. I dislike to tax you at this time, but it is unavoidable, and admits of no delay.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 1, 1862.

Major-General HUGER, *Norfolk, Va.:*

Send as speedily as possible the railroad iron warehoused at Norfolk and Portsmouth to Raleigh and to Danville via Petersburg. Use both roads, and detail Mr. John M. Robinson, who is at Suffolk, on General Loring's staff, to take charge of the transportation on his road, and request General Mahone to order his superintendent to take charge of that on the Norfolk and Petersburg road. Lose no time, as much more is involved than the railroad iron, and it is of great importance to have the roads clear for other purposes.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 1, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c., Yorktown, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 29th, relative to the supposed plans of General McClellan and their result upon your movements, as well as that of the 30th, has been received and submitted to the President. The feasibility of the proposition contained in the latter has been the subject of consideration with him for some time, so far as advancing a column to the Potomac with all the troops that can be made available. The proposed invasion of Ohio by General Beauregard, however desirable, it is feared at this time is impracticable, though it will also be considered. He concurs in your views as to the benefits to be obtained by taking the offensive, and is very desirous of being able to carry it into effect.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 1, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of the Peninsula:

GENERAL: An important defensive work is to be constructed on

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James River below Richmond, and a good constructing engineer is wanted. If Capt. John J. Clarke, of the Provisional Engineer Corps, can be spared, and a portion of your negro force with him, please send them at once to Richmond to report to the Engineer Bureau for duty.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, May 1, 1862.

General HILL:

GENERAL: I have just seen a note from General Whiting to General G. W. Smith, in which he says that you expect your wagons to start near sunset to-morrow. This would be much too late. My intention is, and instructions to all the major-generals, that the wagons shall reach the neighborhood of Williamsburg before dark. As the roads are bad, to accomplish this they must start early in the day. Please, therefore, to have yours set off as early in the day as you can. They cannot be driven over the road in the dark, and, if they could, would interfere with the march of the troops. It is absolutely necessary, therefore, not to delay.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

The chief quartermaster will assign the wagons their ground at the end of the march. Your quartermasters should accompany them, with orders to permit no teamster to stop in the road to water or for any other purpose. This is necessary to prevent delay. These quartermasters should show the troops their ground when they come up.

J. E. J.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, May 1, 1862.

Major-General HILL:

GENERAL: Your letter of this morning is just received.*

You may retain the negroes for the work you mention upon the condition you state, that the place is one of perfect safety. Have the work pressed to immediate completion.

Have you any sick? If so, they must be sent to Richmond immediately. The time for the measure we spoke of at Longstreet's tent is very near. It is postponed only until the different divisions are ready. I am continually finding something in the way never mentioned to me before.

Could the troops at Gloucester Point join you? The move must be made by you, when the time comes, in the early part of the night. Could Colonel Crump join, or will it be necessary for him to take another route?

Respectfully and truly, yours,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

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* Not found.

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NAVY DEPARTMENT, SPECIAL SERVICE,
Richmond, May 1, 1862.

General RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, Present:

SIR: I beg to call your attention to our river defenses, and to say that the most effectual way of keeping off the enemy with his shot-proof vessels is to mine the channel-ways and blow up by means of electricity when he attempts the passage.

I have the pleasure to inform you that there is now on the way to this city from Norfolk a God-send of about 10 miles of submarine wire that was lost by the enemy in the Chesapeake. It is just what we wanted. I have secured it from Dr. Morris, who has kindly placed it at my disposal for the public service, and I shall be happy to turn it over to you for such use as you may be pleased to direct to be made of it.

Respectfully, &c.,

M. F. MAURY,
Commander, Confederate Navy.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 1, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Left Wing, Yorktown:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that the movement agreed upon yesterday will take place to-morrow, the wagons to be loaded and sent to Williamsburg in the morning and the troops to move to-morrow night.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Details will be given hereafter.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION RESERVE,
May 1, 1862.

Major-General HILL,
Commanding Left:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Major-General Smith has just directed me to inquire of you what time your wagons will pass my camp, that I may have the road clear for you. He has ordered me also to be packed and ready to start at daylight, presuming that you will pass before. He also directs that the regiment heretofore ordered on picket will not be sent in to-night, but that in case of any emergency arising in the night any number may go in that may be necessary. I would suggest as a very good road, and materially aiding in getting the trains out on the Telegraph road, the beach a short distance from the town, where a road turns off, bringing one on to the Telegraph road a short distance in my rear.

Very truly, yours,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Brigadier-General.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION RESERVE,
May 1, 1862.

Major-General HILL,
Commanding Left:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I just heard from the troopers a verbal answer to my question "To-morrow evening at sundown." There must be some misapprehension. I have received orders to move my trains to-morrow morning at daylight immediately after yours, and am sure that General Smith informed me that your wagons would all move to-night and your troops to-morrow night. If your trains don't move until to-morrow night the whole movement will have to be altered—at least all my orders and arrangements. General Johnston sent the orders relative to movement of trains, and I am expressly directed to follow your wagons with mine at daylight to-morrow. The movement of troops is independent of them and takes place the next night.

Very truly, yours,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 2, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 1st instant* has been received, and your directions to General Huger, Captain Lee, and Flag-Officer Tatnall forwarded to Norfolk. The Secretary of War went to Norfolk this morning to make arrangements preparatory to the evacuation of that department and for securing the public property at the forts and navy-yard, and to endeavor to send the unfinished gunboats to this city. All the time that can be gained will facilitate these operations. It is not known under what necessity you are acting or how far you can delay the movements of the enemy, who it is presumed will move up York River as soon as opened to him to annoy your flank. His advance on land can be retarded, and he might be delayed in effecting a landing on York River until your stores are withdrawn. The safety of all your ammunition is of the highest importance, and I feel every assurance that everything that can be accomplished by forethought, energy, and skill on your part will be done. If it is possible for the Virginia, which upon the fall of Norfolk must be destroyed, to run into Yorktown at the last moment and destroy the enemy's gunboats and transports, it would greatly cripple his present and future movements, relieve your army from pursuit, and prevent its meeting the same army in Northern Virginia.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's Farm, May 2, 1862.

Capt. J. R. TUCKER, C. S. N.:

MY DEAR SIR: I have ordered the withdrawal of the troops from this line to take place, if practicable, to-night. While the Virginia holds Hampton Roads you will only have to guard against the effect

* Not found.

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of the guns of the enemy from the shore. I have to request that, in addition to aiding in saving the heavy guns and other valuable material in the batteries, you will send the Jamestown as soon as possible to the King's Mill Wharf, for the purpose of transporting the sick now there to Richmond. I desire this because we have been disappointed in procuring other transportation, and it is of the greatest importance to have all the sick removed before the troops are drawn back. The vessel in rendering this invaluable service will only be occupied fifteen or eighteen hours, when she will report to you again. The sick should be on board this afternoon.

I would desire that after the troops have fallen back you continue to observe and control the upper James River as long as practicable, in order to prevent the enemy from crossing and attempting to cut off our forces retiring from Norfolk. When hard pressed you will retire upon Richmond.

The garrison at Jamestown Island has been ordered to Richmond by water. You will oblige me by inquiring to-morrow whether they have adequate water transportation, and, if not, furnish it to them from your squadron, and at the same time lend such assistance as may be necessary in getting off the heavy guns and ordnance stores. The garrison numbers between 500 and 600.

Whatever of valuable property that might be useful to the enemy should be destroyed if it is not practicable to remove it.

Your letter of this date is just received, and the object of [it] I anticipated as above.

[Very respectfully, &c.,

J. E. JOHNSTON.]

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Lee's Farm, May* 2, 1862.

I. The artillery, except the heavy guns, will be withdrawn from the batteries and lines in front at as early an hour this evening as practicable (after sunset) without being observed by the enemy, and put at once in march for Williamsburg.

II. The main portion of the infantry will be withdrawn immediately after dark, leaving behind a sufficient advance picket to hold position until 12 o'clock to-night, at which time they will be withdrawn and take up the same line of march as the other troops to Williamsburg.

III. The cavalry will hold their position until after daylight, and then keep a close watch upon the movements of the enemy.

IV. Major-General Hill, with a portion of his troops, will keep up an active fire from his heavy guns until after midnight. The other portion of his command will move at dark.

V. The two detached brigades of the reserve will move at the same hour. General Whiting's division of the reserve, with two batteries of artillery and the cavalry of his division, will remain in position until General Hill's troops have passed; they will then take up the line of march, becoming the rear guard upon the road from Yorktown to Williamsburg.

VI. The commands of Major-Generals Longstreet and Magruder will retire by the routes taken by their wagon trains respectively, each command furnishing a brigade, with one battery of artillery, to bring up their rear; on arriving at the point where the two roads unite the command of General Magruder will pass first upon the road.

VII. Orders have been given for parking the trains, and quarter-

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masters will be directed to conduct the different commands to the ground upon which the trains are parked. The troops will, if practicable, bivouac with or near their wagons. The order of march for to-morrow will be communicated to major-generals and separate commanders at or near Williamsburg. The whole command will be held in readiness to move from that place at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

VIII. All detached portions of cavalry serving with divisions and brigades, excepting small escorts to division commanders, will report to Brig. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart upon reaching Williamsburg.

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NORFOLK, VA., *May* 3, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding Department of Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: The determination of General Johnston to fall back on the Peninsula renders it necessary that you should prepare for a speedy evacuation of Norfolk. You will accordingly send to Raleigh all the ammunition not necessary for your field batteries and for such heavy guns as you may use to cover the evacuation. You will next send to the same point all your provisions not required for the use of the troops during the evacuation and their march to Petersburg, and such clothing as you may have on hand; and you will then send to Richmond or Raleigh, according to your means of transportation, as many of the heavy guns as you have time to move, preferring those of the heaviest caliber, and especially the rifled guns of the navy pattern. The carriages should be sent with the guns if possible, and such shot and shell, especially for the rifled guns, as can be carried. Whatever public property will be of use to the enemy and cannot be carried off must be destroyed. You will take the control of the railroads leading out of Norfolk and Portsmouth and allow nothing to impede the transportation of the Government. I wish you to act in concert with the commandant of the navy-yard, and to facilitate the removal of such public property from the navy-yard as may be selected for removal. You will bear in mind, however, that the preservation of your army is of the first importance, and that its safety must not be too much hazarded by your efforts to save the public property. I would suggest, therefore, that it will be well to concentrate it as speedily as possible near Suffolk, leaving in position only such portion as may be necessary to cover the evacuation. To do this effectually it will be well to observe the shores of James River and the approaches to Norfolk on the North Carolina side, and to hold the enemy in check, if he advances, until your entire army is withdrawn from Norfolk and Portsmouth and placed beyond the possibility of capture by a superior force. A brigade of not less than three regiments will be required at once for service north of Richmond, and should be marched forthwith to Suffolk, to be sent thence by railroad or by the country roads, as may be hereafter directed. If transportation in addition to that already on the railroads can be used to advantage call upon the Department, and such rolling stock will be furnished as can be procured from other roads. I would further suggest, as additional means of protection on the North Carolina side, that you destroy the locks of the Dismal Swamp Canal forthwith.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, May 3, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: Officers returning from the Peninsula have represented to the President that many men are leaving there on sick leave, surgeon's certificate, &c., and that there is great danger of the arms with which they have been intrusted not being turned in to the proper officers, and of their being misplaced and lost. The scarcity of arms makes him very solicitous upon the subject, and he has directed that an officer of the Ordnance Department be sent down to aid your ordnance officer, under such directions as you may give him, in collecting and securing their arms. Mr. M. P. Taylor, military storekeeper, has been designated by Colonel Gorgas for this duty, and is the bearer of this letter.

It will be a great relief to the commanders of your divisions, brigades, and regiments when your time will permit you to designate officers for ordnance duty, as prescribed in General Orders, No. 24.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, May 3, 1862—3 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

DEAR GENERAL: It is impossible now to get the vessels you want in time. We have no telegraph. The superintendent took away the operator from Williamsburg without consulting me, a little in the state of mind of your men who deserted, I suppose. I am sorry that you published the order for evacuation; that was not expected. It is not likely, however, that the man went to the enemy. Leave the enemy as little valuable property as you can.

Respectfully and truly, yours,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, May 3, 1862—4 p. m.

Major-General HILL:

GENERAL: I have just received the note received in the memorandum book. I think that the state of things at Gloucester Point must be greatly exaggerated; otherwise Colonel Crump, in whom you have given me confidence, would have reported to you. It is too late to make the change proposed, nor is it likely that any new man could exercise the command so advantageously as Colonel Crump. As the place is to be evacuated (your plan and Colonel Crump's was to do so the night after your movement), the advantages you propose of saving stores and the sick supplies of Gloucester cannot be accomplished. All that the commanding officer there can accomplish, after remaining the time designated by you, will be to bring his command safely to the troops on the Fredericksburg road or to join us near Richmond, as he may find easiest.

Respectfully and truly, yours,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

I wish that you had sent to Colonel Crump to ascertain from him the precise state of things, and whether he cannot control his troops.

J. E. J.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Lee's House, May 3, 1862—12.10 p. m.

Major-General HILL:

GENERAL: I have just received the letter by your aide-de-camp. I have no telegraphic communication. The office in Williamsburg was broken up without my knowledge and contrary to my wishes.

I cannot get the horses you mention for artillerists. We have no public ones; those of the cavalry are private property. There can be no difficulty in the movement of your artillerists. So small a number of men can easily escape any organized force pursuing, and if it comes to the worst they can be taken up behind some of the cavalry, who had better be selected beforehand.

Nothing but an actual attack of columns of infantry need interfere with the movement of your main body soon after dark. An artillery fire can be replied to by the troops you keep behind, while the rest act up to the circular.

If the enemy know of the move they will not be apt to attack until the retrograde march is actually commenced.

I hope you may get the six wagons; there are none here, and they could not be brought from Williamsburg as the roads are in time for your object.

Any powder you don't shoot away had better be thrown away.

In considering what you are to do at 8 o'clock remember that the troops on your right will move at that hour unless a fight is going on then. A mere demonstration which would not detain Longstreet ought not therefore to hold you long. Our troops must move together.

Respectfully and truly, yours,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 3, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. R. ANDERSON,
Commanding, &c., Guiney's Station:

GENERAL: Your letter of this date is received. It is out of my power to send you any further re-enforcements at this time, nor am I now able to see whence I can obtain more for you.

With reference to the request of Colonel Riddick, I have to say that it is impossible to arm entire regiments already provided with other arms with Enfield rifles. Those arms are given to the flank companies when they can be obtained. If Colonel Riddick will make a requisition for Enfield rifles for two flank companies it will be filled as far as practicable, and when the Ordnance Department is ready to furnish the rifles Colonel Riddick could receive them and turn in a corresponding number of the arms he now has.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 3, 1862.

ALEXANDER DUDLEY, Esq.,
President Richmond and York River R. R. Co., West Point:

SIR: Your telegram is received,* but owing to the closing of the office at West Point I am compelled to reply by letter.

* Not found.

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General Johnston is the only person who can give directions on the subjects about which you inquire. I cannot give any that might interfere with plans of his, of which I am ignorant. You will have to see him about removal of wires, rails, and the points to place obstructions. I am informed that the best point for obstructing the river below the railroad bridge is at Cooke's Island. Lieutenant Tapscott, engineer at New Market [Kent?] Court-House, has been making examinations of the river for the purpose of obstructing it. You can consult with him on this point. General Johnston is at Williamsburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, May 3, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: It has been reported that some of the enemy's gunboats have reached West Point. The President is apprehensive that they may ascend the Pamunkey before the obstructions in that river are completed, and thus get possession of the grain, &c., in that valley. He thinks if you could send a good light battery, supported by infantry, to a favorable point on the Pamunkey it would have the effect of delaying the advance of the enemy, if not preventing him. Not knowing your position or movements, I do not know whether this is practicable. He is also anxious to receive a reply to his dispatch to you of the 1st instant, and as it may not have reached you I inclose a copy.*

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 5, 1862.

T. H. WYNNE, Esq.,
Chairman Committee on Defense, Richmond, Va.:

MY DEAR SIR: The President desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters respectively of the 3d and 4th instant,† in reference to the progress of the obstructions in the river below this city; and to say to you that, upon the receipt of the letters, immediate steps were taken to remedy the evils mentioned, and it is believed with the desired effect; but if you can think of anything further that we can do to aid in the defenses in which we are all so much interested, we will be glad to hear from you on the subject.

Expressing the President's kind regards to yourself and associates, I am, very respectfully,

G. W. C. LEE,
Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

PETERSBURG, VA., *May* 5, 1862.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector-General:

We are entirely defenseless here. What shall I do with cotton and hogsheads of tobacco, and also with manufactured tobacco and flour?

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* See p. 485.

† Not found.

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Please reply immediately by telegraph. It will take me some days to prepare it for burning.

WILLIAM PANNILL,
Provost-Marshal.

BAYLOR'S HOUSE, *May* 5, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH:

DEAR GENERAL: Finding that there would be no fighting, at least for a few days, I have seized upon the opportunity to turn myself over to the care of the doctor, to re-establish my health, which sadly needed repair. I expect, nevertheless, to join the army in a couple of days or so.

In reflecting over the state of our affairs it has struck me that the changed position of our campaign releases the Merrimac, or Virginia, from the inaction that she has necessarily remained in for the last month, and I have thought it proper to give my views to you upon this subject.

All that the Virginia can effect in the Roads is the protection of Norfolk and the James River. The former object is not now a controlling one, as I understand that Norfolk is, or is to be, evacuated. The protection of the James River by her is entirely confined to the closing of its mouth against a large fleet, but she could not prevent one or more gunboats running by at night, which would give the enemy the control of the river. In addition, our retrograde movement gives him the command of the left bank of the river from the Chickahominy down, and hence we are unable to protect it to that extent. Hence it occurs to me that the object that still detains the Virginia at the mouth of the James River is too inconsiderable to occupy the attention of the last naval hope we have.

If she could successfully pass Fort Monroe and enter York River I think that then she would be in a sphere of action more suited to her capacities. By coming up immediately she would certainly capture probably several of the gunboats of the enemy, which would be surrendered, with all their armaments, uninjured. These captures would form the nucleus of a little fleet, which, protected by the Merrimac, would have a safe port of refuge in York River, whence they could sally out to harass and worry the enemy in every conceivable way. To provide for the contingency of the capture of a gunboat the Merrimac should have put on her a sufficient number of men to man the prize, and these could be obtained from the Jamestown and Patrick Henry, if from no other quarter.

But the Virginia would in York River possess a most serious influence over McClellan's army. It would make his base of operations 40 miles distant from West Point, which he will select now if not interfered with, and even if, owing to her absence, he could assume command of the James River, still his line would be liable at any time to be broken by her, and under all circumstances would be less convenient to him and less injurious to us than West Point.

If it should be said that this arrangement would unite or facilitate a junction between McClellan and Burnside, I answer that we are unable to prevent that whenever the enemy thinks proper to make one or two gunboats pass up the James River, running the blockade of the Virginia at night, which I am informed by the highest naval authority on the river is perfectly practicable.

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The possession of York River would also enable the Virginia to venture more successfully against a fleet of iron-clad vessels, because in the narrow points of the river she would have the advantage of forcing the enemy to receive her fire in any position she might choose to take.

But the consequences flowing from her presence in York River would be infinite. She could sally out whenever she wished, without again being submitted to the terrible fire of Fort Monroe. By going down the bay from time to time she could keep the fort itself in a state of semi-blockade, and render it very difficult for McClellan to feed his army.

If she should be enabled to effect the capture of some of the enemy's gunboats now in York River she might subsequently venture with their aid to sail for the North, and the field of her operations there is so vast that I will not venture to speculate upon them. Of course all these suggestions are based upon the theory that in the opinion and belief of her officers she can successfully pass Fort Monroe and engage the enemy's iron-clad vessels now watching her.

If she cannot struggle successfully against these obstacles, then I think the sooner this is known, so as to relieve us from any false reliance upon her capacities, the better it would be for us in the formation of our plans for the future.

In addition, I would state that it is not even necessary for the enemy to have gunboats in the James River to insure his passage over, because, being in possession of our works at Jamestown Island, he could mount his heavy and long-range guns and drive our frail wooden gunboats with their exposed engines away, and under his guns land at Carter's Wharf, or rather where Carter's Wharf was, as I have ordered it to be burned.

Yours, respectfully,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

These suggestions are worthy of consideration, but the position of the Virginia at the mouth of James River until our obstruction is complete adds materially to the defenses of Richmond, besides giving us a chance to move the material from the navy-yard up James River.

G. W. RANDOLPH.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 6, 1862.

WILLIAM PANNILL, Esq.,
Provost-Marshal, Petersburg, Va.:

SIR: You will prepare to destroy the cotton and tobacco, both leaf and manufactured, in and about Petersburg, in case it is necessary to prevent it from falling into the hands of the enemy. If the tobacco can be destroyed by rolling it into the water, you are authorized to build sheds for its protection, convenient to the river, and to store it there until the time arrives for its destruction. If, however, it can be burned without setting fire to the town you will burn it, and make preparations for doing so at once.

The cotton must be placed where it can be safely burned, and the drayage will be paid by the Government. Suffer no public property

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to fall into the hands of the enemy which can be used by them, but destroy it if you cannot send it away.

I should be sorry for the people of Petersburg to think from these instructions that the Government has no intention of defending the town or that its capture is considered probable. On the contrary, we confidently expect to repel the invasion from the interior of the State, and are preparing for it by withdrawing troops from exposed points.

I had ordered an engineer to obstruct the Appomattox below Petersburg, and desire that you will assist him by furnishing labor or material or in any other way in your power.

Very respectfully,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

WESTOVER, ON JAMES RIVER,
May 6, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: When I left Williamsburg there was no fighting and the retrograde movement was proceeding without interruption by the enemy. To-day we hear the enemy came up with our troops and engaged them below Williamsburg, on the York [River] road. It is reported that we lost some 500 in killed and wounded, including among the latter Colonel Ward, of Florida. Their loss is much heavier, including some 900 prisoners and several batteries of artillery.

I have reliable information that the march to the rear has been suspended in order to confront the enemy, who press on us warmly, notwithstanding the repulse they have met with. It seems to me the condition of the army is critical, and as General Johnston has not, I believe, means of direct communication with Richmond, I have thought [it] of importance to give you this information, and to suggest that all the steamboats and other means of transportation at hand in Richmond, accompanied by all the armed vessels, may be sent without delay to Wilcox's Wharf, on James River, to be in readiness to transport the army across the river.

I learn from my signal officer, Captain Norris, just up from below, that there may be serious obstacles to the Virginia getting into York River. She should, therefore, by all means take or retain her position as a guard boat at the mouth of this river.

Without knowing what supplies General Johnston may be furnished with, I suggest that at least 20,000 rations of meat and corn meal be sent by the boats for the use of the army.

Without being able to perform any duty, I have thought it proper to make these suggestions.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER.

RICHMOND, *May* 6, 1862.

WILLIAM T. JOYNES, *Petersburg:*

The movements of troops and stores now going on are of the utmost importance. They have not been interrupted here in behalf of the owners of private property, and I do not feel authorized to interrupt them in Petersburg.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 7, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding Department of Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 5th instant* and am pleased to learn that you are progressing favorably with your movements. I have this morning telegraphed to you relative to the disposition of the guns and troops. It is desired that you remove all the guns that you possibly can, selecting the best first. Please to have the columbiads (or navy 68-pounders), with some of the navy rifled guns, sent to this place, leaving four guns at Petersburg for a battery to protect obstructions in the Appomattox River. The others may be sent to Raleigh, N. C. I can appreciate your objections to dismantling the advanced batteries, but think it advisable to save the more valuable guns, if possible. Could they not be removed under cover of night? Colonel Clarke's regiment had better be left in North Carolina. Please order him to report to General Holmes. Other regiments, as they can be spared, will be sent here. Please consolidate their organization into brigades when practicable, sending those of one brigade in succession. When everything has been done it is desired that you will come here also.

I have to inform you that it will be necessary to withdraw General Loring from your command. The order will be issued in a day or two, assigning him to duty elsewhere.

If the companies of cavalry formerly attached to the Wise Legion, and now forming a part of Davis' regiment, can be spared, please send them up, that they may join their regiment, now in General Johnston's army, on the Peninsula.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 7, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Information has just been received from Major-General Loring, commanding at Suffolk, that the troops are moving from Smithfield and the batteries by your order. General Loring says:

I do not think that it can be known to him that General Huger has not moved away from Norfolk.

I have telegraphed General Loring to the effect that troops must not move from positions necessary to maintain communication with Norfolk before the stores, men, &c., are withdrawn from that place; that the outposts must be prepared for evacuation, but not abandoned before the proper time, and I have directed him to communicate with General Huger on the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
By W. H. TAYLOR,
Aide-de-Camp.

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* Not found.

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HEADQUARTERS, *May* 7, 1862.

General D. H. HILL:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Please place Rodes' brigade about half way between Diascund Bridge and Burnt Ordinary, with his battery—one regiment a mile in advance of the brigade, with a section of artillery. This is necessary to guard our rear on that road.

Please direct General Rodes to select the best position that he can find both for his three regiments and his regiment on advance guard, and instruct them that our cavalry will retire by that road, so that they may not fire on them. A position must be selected which can be held, and must be held.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

General RODES:

I send you directions from General Longstreet, which please read and return. The order must be promptly executed.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, VA.,
(Received May 8, 1862.)

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch received. Must I let cotton and tobacco be sent away or must I go and get it ready for burning, should it become necessary?

WILLIAM PANNILL,
Provost-Marshal.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, *May* 8, 1862.

The command will move to-morrow morning as soon as the trains have passed, Longstreet's division in front. Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill will designate a brigade and a battery as rear guard, which will not move from this position until the rear guard of to-day has passed. The order of march of Longstreet's division will be as follows:

1st. Artillery.
2d. Hill's brigade.
3d. Anderson's brigade.
4th. Pickett's brigade.
5th. Pryor's brigade.
6th. Colston's brigade.
7th. Wilcox's brigade.

By command of Major-General Longstreet:

G. MOXLEY SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 8, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 6th instant with regard to the movements of the steamer Virginia. It is deemed of the utmost importance that she guard the entrance to James River, to prevent its ascent by the gunboats of the enemy. I am aware of the aid she can render in the evacuation of the batteries at Sewell's Point and Craney Island, but it is believed that she will as effectually cover this movement while stationed at the mouth of James River as if in Hampton Roads. The enemy would not be likely to attempt to cross from the opposite side while she was within so short a distance, and she would, moreover, in this position prevent any movement to cut you off by landing a force above.

It is desired that you send the Blakely gun to this city. Such troops as you may find expedient to send by the way of Garysburg will continue to Petersburg. It is intended to hold the line of railroad from the latter place to Weldon, but no points east of it not necessary for its security. It will be necessary, therefore, to station a force sufficient for the purpose at convenient points near the road, the remainder of the troops of your department to move to this city, except the regiment of Colonel Clarke, as previously advised.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near New Kent Court-House, May 8, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: I have just received three* letters from your office signed "R. E. Lee, gen'l, by W. H. Taylor, A. A. G.," written in the first person, all dated yesterday.

One of these informs me that certain supposed orders of mine had been countermanded by you or "W. H. Taylor, A. A. G." The matter to which you refer was intrusted by me to General Huger. The only order given directly to troops on the south side of James River was intended to carry out one by the President to bring a remnant of Brigadier-General Colston's brigade to join him. He informed me that his brigade had been ordered to the Peninsula, but that he had left his staff and some other portion of it. He was authorized to order them to join him via Richmond. This was carrying out an order of the Government.

My authority does not extend beyond the troops immediately around me. I request therefore to be relieved of a merely nominal geographical command. The service will gain thereby the unity of command, which is essential in war.

I have had in the Peninsula no means of obtaining direct information from the other departments of my command nor has the Government furnished it. Please inform me without delay of the position and number of the troops in the direction of Fredericksburg. I wish to place them so that they may not be cut off by an army landing at

* Only one found.

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West Point. I have heard casually that you have caused the Pamunkey to be obstructed; if so, it is unfortunate that I was not apprised of the fact.

The enemy occupied a large and dense wood in front of their landing place in the afternoon of the 6th, and was dislodged in very handsome style yesterday by Brigadier-General Whiting with a portion of his division, the brigades of Brigadier-General Hood and Colonel Hampton. These officers gave additional evidence of their high merit. I therefore earnestly repeat my recommendations that Brigadier-General Whiting, who has commanded a division, and Colonel Hampton, who has commanded a brigade, for six months, may be promoted to corresponding rank. The service will gain greatly by these promotions.

As the department of Richmond is not under my command, I can give no orders in regard to works for its defense. I sent, however, several hundred negroes from the Peninsula to help in their construction, and desired Captain Tucker, C. S. Navy, to remove the guns at Mulberry Point and Jamestown for the defense of the obstructions to navigation which I am told are in course of construction.

Major Stevens, C. S. Engineers, now in Richmond, might be usefully employed in directing these works and disposing of the guns.

I shall be found for the present on the New Kent Court-House road. The impossibility of subsisting the army in the neighborhood and the supposed position of an army of ours near Fredericksburg render it impracticable to wait to oppose a landing opposite to West Point.

We may be supplied with provisions hereafter by the York River Railroad at the station on the northeast side of the Chickahominy.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 8, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

Your letter of the 8th has just been received. Those to which you allude as having received yesterday were prepared for my signature and being unexpectedly called away, and not wishing to detain the messenger, I directed Major Taylor to affix my signature and send to you. The one referring to the telegram of General Loring was merely intended to advise you of the progress of the evacuation of Norfolk and what had been done to maintain the posts guarding the communication to that place until the evacuation was completed, and which was supposed to be in accordance with your general instructions on the subject. Nothing was done to interrupt the portion of General Colston's brigade joining him. I consider your authority to extend over the troops on both sides of James River, and have transmitted as rapidly as I could all the orders sent to me. I do not recollect your having requested information relating to the other departments of your command to be forwarded by any other means than the usual course of the mails, and supposed the commanders were in direct correspondence with you.

I advised you on the 23d of April of certain troops having been ordered to report to General Field, viz, two regiments from this city raised for local defense, two light batteries, a brigade from South Carolina, and a brigade from North Carolina, making in all about 8,000

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men, in addition to those previously there. The brigade of General J. R. Anderson having been sent from North Carolina by General Holmes, places General Anderson in command of the troops, he being the senior officer present. He has taken position about Massaponax, south of Fredericksburg, extending his pickets toward Port Royal.

I understand that the enemy has built a bridge of boats across the Rappahannock opposite Fredericksburg, but has not yet occupied the town, his troops occupying the hills in Stafford, his left being opposite Port Royal; his strength estimated at from 15,000 to 20,000.

General Ewell at last reports was at Swift Run Gap, a portion of his division being at Stanardsville. General Jackson was at Staunton, with a view of uniting with General Edward Johnson and attacking General Milroy, who was not far from Buffalo Gap. General Banks was reported as having evacuated Harrisonburg and passed down the valley, his main body being beyond New Market. It has occurred to me that his object may be to form a junction with General McDowell on the Rappahannock. I have telegraphed my apprehension to both Generals Jackson and Ewell to place them on their guard.

Two brigades, one from North Carolina and one from Norfolk, have been directed, under the orders of the President, to proceed to Gordonsville, to re-enforce that line, which at one time was threatened by a column from Warrenton, the advance of which entered Culpeper Court-House. The obstructions of James River are progressing as rapidly as possible and batteries in process of erection for their defense. I know of no one more competent to direct the construction of these works than Major Stevens if not wanted with your army. In reference to the obstruction of the Pamunkey, before it was commenced the subject was referred to you, and directions were given for the preparation of material, procuring of pile-driver, &c. The river had been previously examined for that purpose, and the best position stated to be about 8 miles below the railroad bridge. Captain Carrington, who understood the work, was directed to report to you for instructions and any aid he might require. But from the difficulty of communicating with you and the necessity of the case, and being only able to use the boats in the river, the work, I fear, has been imperfectly done. All the transports, however, were carried above the obstructions, and their cargoes I understand are at present secure.

The quartermaster and commissary departments will be informed as to the point to which to send you provisions.

The President has heard with much pleasure of the handsome manner in which the enemy was dislodged on the afternoon of the 6th by a portion of your command, and your commendatory remarks on the officers engaged have been reported to him.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 9, 1862.

PETER V. DANIEL,
President of Richmond, Fredericksburg and Petersburg R. R. Co.:

SIR: The Government desires, in the event of the occupation of this city by the enemy, that all of your rolling stock and material necessary for the operation of the road should be sent south. You will, therefore,

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prepare it for removal; and should the danger become imminent, you will remove it without waiting for further instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

(A similar letter addressed to Col. Edmund Fontaine, president of the Virginia Central Railroad.)

RICHMOND, *May* 9, 1862.

WILLIAM PANNILL,
Provost-Marshal, Petersburg:

Move 10,000 pounds to Raleigh, and 5,000 to the nearest safe place, from which it can be used for your city defenses. Get all out of reach from the river at once.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 9, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Norfolk, Va.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of yesterday, and am glad to hear that the work of removal is progressing favorably. With you I object to destruction for destruction's sake, and hope that you will be enabled to remove everything of value. As regards the point at which to collect your troops, I did not intend to interfere with your instructions from the Department to rendezvous at Petersburg. I merely intended to designate this city as their probable ultimate destination, to be held available to be thrown in front of Richmond if necessary. As I advised you on yesterday, the line of road from Petersburg to Weldon is to be held. All points east of that line necessary to its security must be guarded. The exact disposition is left to your judgment. It is not desired, however, to station any large force at Petersburg, but your force could at least rendezvous at that point and be held available for a movement in this direction, should it become advisable or necessary. The brigade of General Mahone, as you have been advised, has been ordered in advance to Gordonsville.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
New Kent Court-House, May 9, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, C. S. A.:

SIR: I received last evening your letter in relation to my aiding in the obstruction of the navigation of the Pamunkey.

This work I respectfully suggest should have been directed by the Government and completed by this time. Your letter was written while I was still in Williamsburg. It is received after the enemy's gunboats have possession of the river. Our field pieces cannot contend with their heavy guns.

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I have been unable to find any one who can tell me what has been done or by whom or at what point, though it is thought in the neighborhood that such work was in progress, but interrupted by the Federal war vessels.

A copy of a telegram from the President to me, dated 1st instant, was also received.

The two officers named are necessary to the preservation of anything like organization in this army. The troops, in addition to the lax discipline of volunteers, are partially discontented at the conscription act and demoralized by their recent elections. Stragglers cover the country, and Richmond is no doubt filled with the absent without leave. It has been necessary to divide the army into two parts; one under General Smith, on this road; the other under General Longstreet, on that by the Chickahominy. Each of these divisions is probably much larger than the "Army of the North." This army cannot be commanded without these two officers; indeed, several more major-generals like them are required to make this an army. The men are full of spirit when near the enemy, but at other times to avoid restraint leave their regiments in crowds. To enable us to gather the whole army for battle would require a notice of several days.

The best mode of arranging this matter will be to unite the two armies, which, if I am in actual command, will be done. It is necessary to unite all our forces now. All that I can control shall be concentrated.

If this command (mine) includes the Department of Northern Virginia still this Army of the North is a part of it; if not, my position should be defined anew. Nothing is more necessary to us than a distinct understanding of every officer's authority.

Longstreet is ordered to place himself to-day near the Long Bridge, on this [side] of the river, and General Smith to move to the Baltimore Cross-Roads, 8 miles from this place.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Baltimore Store, May 9, 1862—10 p. m.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: Major-General Smith's troops are on this road; his own division around this point; that of Magruder, now under Brig. Gen. D. R. Jones, nearer. He has gone too near the Chickahominy Bridge. I propose to remain in this vicinity until further information reaches me.

Major Stevens, just from Richmond, tells me that there are but three guns in battery at Drewry's Bluff. I directed Captain Tucker, commanding the little squadron there near the place, to send the guns and carriages from Mulberry Point to Richmond. I was told that the guns are good, as well as the carriages. He was also desired to remove those at Jamestown. There is, however, reason to think that this service was not performed.

Permit me to suggest the importance of arming the battery for the defense of the obstructing works as heavily as possible.

It is reported that several thousand stragglers from this army are in Richmond, or near it, on the way. I request that the commanding officer may be directed to compel them to rejoin their regiments forthwith. Many who were sent to the city slightly sick should now rejoin. A large number of muskets taken to Richmond by these sick.

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I can get no information of the position or strength of the army (Confederate) near Fredericksburg. Can you give me none?

We depend upon the Virginia for the defense of James River. The batteries on the south side are useless.

Relays of couriers are placed on the road and a telegraph office established at Tunstall's Station, some 5 miles hence.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

ENGINEER BUREAU,
Richmond, May 9, 1862.

JOHN B. STANARD,
In charge of Richmond Defenses:

SIR: Colonel Goode, Major Allen, and other artillery officers have been directed to mount the 32-pounder guns on ship carriages around this city, and I wish you to point out to these officers, as I have pointed out to you, the places where they are to place the guns, and furnish them every facility for forwarding the work at your command.

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief Engineer Bureau.

RICHMOND, VA., *May 9, 1862.*

Capt. J. R. BRANCH, *Petersburg:*

Push the drill of your battery, and if the enemy's gunboats enter the Appomattox, choose a position where you can fire upon them to advantage, and do your utmost to defend the obstruction in the river. You will only obey orders from your military superiors.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 10, 1862.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

SIR: Have such of your records and papers as ought to be preserved, and are not required for constant reference, packed in boxes, for removal and marked, so as to designate the bureau to which they belong. Books and papers necessary for constant reference may be kept in the presses, but boxes must be prepared for them. This is only intended as a prudent step, and is not caused by any bad news from the army. There is no need, therefore, for any panic in the city, and it should be prevented by the assurance that we have every reason to think that the city can be successfully defended.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

(The same to Colonel Gorgas, Chief of Ordnance; Col. L. B. Northrop, Commissary-General; S. P. Moore, Surgeon-General, and Col. A. C. Myers, Quartermaster-General.)

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 10, 1862.

General J. H. WINDER,
Commanding, &c., Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: General Johnston telegraphs that he desires all soldiers of his army now in Richmond to be sent down by railroad to Summit Station, with full cartridge boxes.

The enemy is reported to be advancing. I desire that you will cause all these troops to be sent at once and all the Texas recruits now in the city previously reported as ready to move.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, May 10, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your letters of the 9th have been received. The object of the President in obtaining a general for the portion of your army on the Rappahannock was with a view that operations of its several divisions might be combined to attack the enemy, who seemed to have exposed himself and his lines of communication, and to prevent any movement that might threaten your rear. He still thinks such a commander very desirable, but as the condition of things is now changed, and the branches of your army are brought nearer, it may not be so important as it was while you were occupied in front of Yorktown. Your command still includes the Department of Northern Virginia, and the army on the Rappahannock is under your control.

In addition to the three guns originally at Drewry's Bluff several navy guns have been mounted, and every exertion is being made to render the obstructions effective and the battery commanding it as formidable as possible.

It would appear from your letter of the 9th that you had not received mine of the 8th, giving you detailed information as regards the strength and position of our army near Fredericksburg. I presume it has subsequently reached you. In a letter this morning received from General Anderson he reports that the enemy have crossed over one regiment, perhaps more. General Patrick, brigade commander, has headquarters in Fredericksburg. He states the strength of the enemy at nearly 40,000 and increasing.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 10, 1862.

General JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: In a letter from General Huger, dated this morning, he says:

At 8 last evening the vedettes from City Point reported four of the enemy's steamers were laying off City Point. I send a picket to the neighborhood of City Point to observe them.

General Huger reports nothing since.

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In a report from Colonel Stuart just to hand (who is opposite Drewry's Bluff) he says: "It is reported that the enemy's transports (fourteen) are at City Point with troops." This is by no means positive; I merely give it as received and for what it is worth.

The general is absent, and I send you the above unofficially, knowing that you would like to hear all that is going on.

Most respectfully,

W. H. TAYLOR.

HEADQUARTERS,
Cross-Roads, New Kent C. H., May 10, 1862—10.30 p. m.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: I have written to you several times on the subject of concentrating near Richmond all the troops within reach. I have ordered Major-General Huger to evacuate Norfolk and conduct his troops to Richmond, but have no information of his progress. The Army of the North must be in the Department of Northern Virginia, but as I have been informed neither of its location, strength, nor the name of its immediate commander, I must suppose that it is not under my orders. If the President will direct the concentration of all the troops of North Carolina and Eastern Virginia we may be able to hold Middle Virginia at least. If we permit ourselves to be driven beyond Richmond we lose the means of maintaining this army.

The enemy is now almost exactly between us and the Army of the North. That army should therefore be drawn back, to secure its communication with this one.

A concentration of all our available forces may enable us to fight successfully. Let us try.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

LONG BRIDGE, *May* 10, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

It is with deep mortification that I report that several thousand soldiers and many individuals with commissions have fled to Richmond under pretext of sickness. They have even thrown away their arms that their flight might not be impeded. Cannot these miserable wretches be arrested and returned to their regiments, where they can have their heads shaved and be drummed out of service? Do make General Winder hunt up all who have not surgeons' certificates.

General, the lies of the newspapers ought to be stopped. Could they not be forbidden to publish anything? In the fight near West Point we lost but 16 killed and wounded. The Richmond papers report a thousand killed and wounded. What must the enemy think of his success?

Our force at Williamsburg is reported to be larger than that of the enemy by the Richmond press, whereas the only troops engaged were the divisions of Longstreet and myself, and McClellan was in person at Williamsburg with at least two corps of his army.*

* * * * * * *

I think that the enemy got a severe check at Williamsburg and

* Some personal matter omitted.

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Barhamsville. He has been cautious about the pursuit since the three fights. Our own loss has been heavy. At Williamsburg we must have had a thousand killed and wounded. I fear even a heavier loss.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 108. } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., May* 10, 1862.

* * * * * * *

VI. The regiment of cavalry under Col. J. Lucius Davis, the Forty-sixth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, under Lieut. Col. J. H. Richardson, the Twentieth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, under Lieut. Col. Nat. Tyler, the Fifty-ninth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, under Colonel Henningsen (that portion not captured and paroled), and McComas' light battery, will form a brigade, under the command of Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise, and will report to General J. E. Johnston for duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 11, 1862.

Major-General HUGER, or the OFFICER IN COMMAND AT SUFFOLK:

Notify General Wool that we shall send the prisoners down James River to-morrow, and that we were prevented from sending them last Monday by the movements of the armies. This should be done immediately, so that he may send steamers to receive them. There will be probably 800 sent. Ask him to what point we shall send the prisoners in North Carolina. Take up the railroad tracks on both roads east of Suffolk as far as possible, and send the iron of the Seaboard and Roanoke road to Clarksville, and that of the Norfolk and Petersburg road to the junction of the South Side and Richmond and Danville roads. When the troops retire from Suffolk continue the same thing westward, letting the last train take up the iron behind it. Remove the rolling stock of the first road to Weldon or west of it, and that of the other to Petersburg, when the troops retire.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 11, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: Your letter and one of General Longstreet's were laid before me for attention to the recommendations of officers therein contained.

Your attention has been heretofore called to the law in relation to the organization of brigades and divisions. Orders were long since given to bring the practice and the law into conformity, and recently reports have been asked for from the commanders of separate armies as to the composition of their respective brigades and divisions. I have been much harassed and the public interest has certainly suffered by the delay to place the regiments of some of the States in brigades together,

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it being deemed that unjust discrimination was made against them, and also by the popular error which has existed as to the number of brigades to which appointments could be specially urged on grounds of residence. While some have expressed surprise at my patience when orders to you were not observed, I have at least hoped that you would recognize the desire to aid and sustain you, and that it would produce the corresponding action on your part. The reasons formerly offered have one after another disappeared, and I hope you will, as you can, proceed to organize your troops as heretofore instructed, and that the returns will relieve of the uncertainty now felt as to the numbers and relations of the troops and the commands of the officers having brigades or divisions.

As a general rule, I would not have less than four regiments to a brigade nor less than four brigades to a division. The limit above that must depend upon the character of the troops and of the officers.

I have been much relieved by the successes which you have gained, and hope for you the brilliant result which the drooping cause of our country now so imperatively claims. I will not dwell on the lost opportunity afforded along the line of Northern Virginia, but must call your attention to the present condition of affairs and probable action of the enemy if not driven from his purpose to advance on the Fredericksburg route.

I hope to see you soon at your headquarters, and in the mean time remain, very truly, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 11, 1862.

SAMUEL S. WILSON, Esq.,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: Your letter of the 10th instant to the Secretary of War is received. The forces have been withdrawn from Norfolk and Portsmouth, but efforts will be made to continue railroad communication with the South through Weldon. I deem it a matter of great moment that the rolling stock and equipments of your road should be removed to a place of safety and placed where they can be made available on other roads.

Unless there should be danger of losing rolling stock there would be no objection to using the upper part of the road for transporting to Weldon such stores and supplies as may be collected along the route, but in no case should the trains be endangered either in attempting to transport such supplies or more especially in the ordinary traffic of the road.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

PETERSBURG, VA.,
May 11, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Am sure you will excuse my suggesting that Petersburg ought to be tended. Let a stand be made here, where an army can be collected

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whose resistance would spread over the world and go down to latest times. The cotton mills and flour mills are important to be saved.

As a thoroughfare it is very important. The railroads go out to the north, east, west, and south. There are large numbers of negroes in all the surrounding country. If it is not to be defended strenuously ought not the people to know it?

ROBERT R. COLLIER.

HDQRS. SECOND CORPS, DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Christian's House, May 11, 1862.

Brigadier-General RAINS,
Commanding Rear Guard:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your brigade, now on rear guard, back to-morrow morning to a position half way between that you occupy at present and this point.

He further directs that the main body of the cavalry move back with you, keeping their usual distance behind your brigade. The pickets must still be kept at the points now held and in advance along the roads. The bridge will be burnt when the cavalry come over. It is the desire of the major-general commanding that you put out no shells or torpedoes behind you, as he does not recognize it as a proper or effective method of war.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOXLEY SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

A shell which can be prepared and unprepared in a moment, and a sentinel to keep our own people off, are all that is wanted for our protection.

Our volunteers cannot be restrained from firing their guns when they ought not, and so frequent is this fault that the small report of a gun of a sentinel, as a rifle, for instance, is not heeded, and our troops liable to surprise and destruction, of which we have had three notable cases. A shell prepared would remedy this, for the advancing enemy would explode it, and that would lessen their force, demoralize their troops, and give us time, with loud warning, to prepare for the conflict. As it is, I am compelled to approximate to the same results—to send forward a picket of artillery, supported by infantry, which is liable to be cut off, and have our men killed or captured by such rigid philanthropy for the enemy, which I have myself possessed until lately.

These shells give us decided advantages over the foe invading our soil, especially in frustrating night surprises, requiring but little powder for great results in checking advancing columns at all times.

For, their being proper for war, they are as much so as ambuscades, masked batteries, and mines. The enemy, I learn, intended to mine and blow up Redoubt No. 4, known as Fort Magruder, at Yorktown; and if such means of killing by wholesale be proper, why should not smaller mines be used? Or must we accord to them alone the privilege of using against us the vast supplies of gunpowder, for which they have raked the world by advantages derived from a navy much of

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which properly belongs to us. For their effectiveness I refer to the enemy.

Believing as I do the vast advantages to our country to be gained from this invention I am unwilling to forego it, and beg leave to appeal direct to the War Department.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

G. J. RAINS,

Brigadier-General, Comdg. Brigade in the Field, near Richmond.

Respectfully forwarded.

In my opinion all means of destroying our brutal enemies are lawful and proper.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[The foregoing papers, Sorrel to Rains and Rains' indorsement, also Mason to Hill, p. 511, and Rains to Hill, p. 516, were considered by the Secretary of War, who indorsed thereon the following:]

[Indorsement.]

Whether shells planted in roads or parapets are contrary to the usages of war depends upon the purpose with which they are used.

It is not admissible in civilized warfare to take life with no other object than the destruction of life. Hence it is inadmissible to shoot sentinels and pickets, because nothing is attained but the destruction of life. It would be admissible, however, to shoot a general, because you not only take life but deprive an army of its head.

It is admissible to plant shells in a parapet to repel an assault or in a road to check pursuit, because the object is to save the work in one case and the army in the other.

It is not admissible to plant shells merely to destroy life and without other design than that of depriving your enemy of a few men, without materially injuring him.

It is admissible to plant torpedoes in a river or harbor, because they drive off blockading or attacking fleets.

As Generals Rains and Longstreet differ in this matter, the inferior in rank should give way, or, if he prefers it, he may be assigned to the river defenses, where such things are clearly admissible.

G. W. RANDOLPH.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 12, 1862—4 a. m.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: Your letter of 10.30 p. m. May 10, 1862, has just been received. I must suppose that some of my letters to you have miscarried.

The army on the Rappahannock is located on the line on which you placed it. General Jackson in the valley, General Ewell in the direction of Gordonsville, and General J. R. Anderson, senior officer, with the troops near Fredericksburg, in the vicinity of that city. General Jackson has been moved to General Edward Johnson, and General Ewell has been called by him to Swift Run Gap. General Anderson is on the Massaponax Hills, south of Fredericksburg.

The enemy is in front of each of these divisions, and reported to be in greater strength than either. That opposite Fredericksburg, by last

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accounts from General Anderson, approaches 40,000. Probably it is the whole of McDowell's column, and I hope exaggerated.

As our troops recede the enemy will naturally follow. Toward what point in the vicinity of Richmond do you desire them to concentrate?

General Huger has left Norfolk, and I presume the enemy is in it. General Holmes at Goldsborough. A brigade from Generals Holmes and Huger has been drawn into Virginia to strengthen the army on the Rappahannock. It is in this way that General Anderson becomes the commanding general at Fredericksburg. I will forward him any directions you may have for his guidance and for the other divisions of your army. If General Anderson retires south of the junction of the Central and Fredericksburg Railroad it will interrupt the railroad communication with Generals Jackson and Ewell, and from the tenor of your letter it may be necessary for him to come nearer this city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Near Cross-Roads, May 12, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: General Johnston desires that you inquire into the inclosed report, taken from the New York Herald, to ascertain if there is any truth in the statement, to find out if there were any torpedoes placed, and, if so, when, where, and by whom.*

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—The works where the enemy say the torpedoes were placed were those at Yorktown.

[Inclosure.]

TORPEDOES.

[Extract from General McClellan's report.]

The rebels have been guilty of the most murderous and barbarous conduct in placing torpedoes within the abandoned works near wells and springs, and near flag-staffs, magazines, and telegraph offices, in carpet-bags, barrels of flour, &c.

We have not lost many men in this manner—some 4 or 5 killed and perhaps a dozen wounded. I shall make the prisoners move them at their own peril.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 12, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. C. PEMBERTON,
Commanding, &c., Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say that such is the pressure in Virginia that it has become necessary to concentrate our

* These papers were sent to Major-General Hill; were referred by him to Brigadier-General Rains, and were answered under date of May 14. See also Sorrel to Rains, May 11.

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forces as much as possible, in order to be enabled successfully to meet the heavy columns of the enemy in their attempt to advance on Richmond, and it may be necessary to draw still further from your command for the purpose of re-enforcing the Army of Northern Virginia. You are desired, therefore, to hold yourself in readiness to send on another brigade from the troops of your command, should it be required.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *May* 12, 1862.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

There are several schooners here belonging to private individuals. May I fill them with rock and sink them in the river?

By sinking these vessels it will greatly aid in obstructing the river.

WM. TURNBULL,
Government Agent.

RICHMOND, *May* 13, 1862.

WILLIAM TURNBULL, *Petersburg:*

Whatever is required by the officer charged with the duty of obstructing the river may be taken, but it will create confusion if other persons undertake to make obstructions.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 13, 1862.

His Excellency HENRY T. CLARK,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

GOVERNOR: The necessity for re-enforcements to General Johnston's army is so great as to render it necessary, I fear, to withdraw more troops from your State. I therefore respectfully urge upon Your Excellency the great importance of sending to General Holmes your new regiments to replace troops that may be withdrawn from him. It is with extreme reluctance, I assure Your Excellency, that further drafts will be made upon the army under General Holmes; but I believe the surest way to protect North Carolina from invasion is to drive the enemy from Virginia. The President has determined to appoint General Martin and Colonel Clingman brigadier-generals in the Confederate service, which he hopes will be pleasing to Your Excellency and the troops of your State.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 13, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c., New Kent Court-House:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of to-day by Major Cole in reference to the supply of provisions for your army in the event of Richmond falling into the hands of the enemy. It has been the policy

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not to keep in depot here more than ten days' supply for 100,000 men. That is about the quantity here at this time. Depots have been formed at Danville, Charlotte, Atlanta, &c., on the Southern roads. Supplies are also placed at Gordonsville, Charlottesville, Lynchburg, &c. No great supply has been placed at Staunton, as it was thought that place was in jeopardy from the movement of the enemy up the Shenandoah Valley. There is a large supply of bacon at Lynchburg, and the Commissary-General calculates upon receiving about 10,000 head of cattle from the country now covered by Jackson and Ewell.

In reference to the provisions in this city, they can be removed out of the reach of the shots from the enemy's gunboats for the immediate use of your army, and the only question is as to the best points. I have proposed to the Commissary-General to send a portion to Ashland and the Louisa Junction, on the north side of James River, and to Burkeville, the intersection of the Danville and Southside Railroads, south of James River. Would Hanover Court-House or a nearer point on the Central Railroad be convenient to you and some point on the Richmond and York River Railroad this side of the Chickahominy?

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 13, 1862—9 p. m.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

DEAR GENERAL: I have been in conference several hours with the President, General Lee, and Colonel Northrop, and although I have not succeeded in procuring much information, yet I conclude to send you a courier and give such information as they furnished.

There is ten days' rations now in Richmond for about 70,000 men. He proposes to send off at once to Burkeville Junction, Southside and Danville roads, and Ashland, on Fredericksburg road, a part of this supply. He has at Lynchburg 5,000,000 of rations that can be placed at any point on either side of James River south and west of Richmond as fast as cars can take it. He expects to get 10,000 head of cattle from the valley division within our reach very soon. In fine, he says that there is no trouble about feeding your army for ninety days, if you will indicate where your line will be south and west of Richmond in case we should be forced to give up the city.

Colonel Northrop don't know anything about the supply about Staunton. Ewell and Jackson are supplied from the country about them. In addition to your army, he says 20,000 rations are issued here. The army south of James River does not draw from here, and will not at present, provided they saved the supply at Norfolk.

Colonel Northrop insists, if you can reoccupy Northern Virginia and the Potomac about Loudoun, that 100,000 men can be supplied from that country. This I doubt.

I am to talk with the flour and bacon merchants to-night, and will be able to give you better data to-morrow. I will follow the thing up, although I find Colonel Northrop very much disinclined to give information; he seems to consider it his patent article.

The gunboats (five) were at City Point at 11 a. m. to-day, making soundings and surveying.

In haste, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. COLE,
Major, C. S. P. A.

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P. S.—The sick and stragglers, without passes and with their arms, come in large numbers daily to the city by the railroad trains. No guard at either end and no officer on the trains. Trains make three trips each way daily.

They insist on your saying where you propose taking up your line in case Richmond falls. If you choose to tell them, send me a courier early in the morning, with such information as you think proper.

Yours,

A. H. COLE.

ENGINEER BUREAU,
Richmond, May 13, 1862.

General HUGER, *Petersburg, Va.:*

Captain Blackford leaves to night for Mill Rock to post sharpshooters from that point (on the south side of the James River) to the obstructions. Capt. John J. Clarke, at Chaffin's Bluff (north side of river), will post below that point. Major Stevens will direct the whole.

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief Engineer Bureau.

ENGINEER BUREAU,
Richmond, May 13, 1862.

Lieut. CHARLES P. MASON,
Provisional Engineer Corps, Drewry's Bluff:

DEAR SIR: Capt. William Blackford has been directed to post sharpshooters below you on the right bank of James River. Extend to him every facility consistent with a due regard to your own work. He may have need for a few tools for rifle pits; if so, let him have them, if possible. Some rifle pits at Drewry's would also be advisable. Major Stevens, of the Confederate Engineer Corps, will take charge of the whole defense in the morning.

Very respectfully, yours,

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief Engineer Bureau.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 14, 1862.

General B. HUGER, *Petersburg, Va.:*

Send immediately General Mahone, with his brigade, or part of it, to Drewry's Bluff. Let him land at Proctor's Creek, on the Petersburg Railroad.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded for information of General J. E. Johnston, commanding, &c.

By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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RICHMOND, VA., *May* 14, 1862.

Major-General HUGER, *Petersburg:*

The President wishes you to have four companies of light troops at Drewry's Bluff at daylight. You will send them by special train, and they must leave the railroad near Drewry's house about 2½ miles from Drewry's Bluff. They will act as a covering force for the battery, under the command of the senior officer of the army present.

You will send General Mahone's brigade to the same point as soon as practicable, and he will assume the command on his arrival there.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 14, 1862.

Major-General HUGER,
Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Presuming from your telegraph to Captain Rives this evening that you have not received General Lee's telegram ordering you to send General Mahone's brigade to Drewry's Bluff, I send Captain Blackford, of the Engineer Corps, to conduct the brigade to its destination. You will send it as soon as practicable, and direct General Mahone to assume the command of the post. He will find Captain Farrand, of the Navy, in charge of the battery and the obstruction. The President wishes General Mahone to superintend the engineering operations and to cover the battery with his brigade. He will have an engineer officer assigned to his command, and will cause the obstruction to be completed as rapidly as possible by the deposit of loose stone. He will have the guns mounted and the batteries casemated. You will send on in advance of the brigade four companies of light troops, who will report to the Army officer present, and be employed in covering the battery and as sharpshooters on the bluff. These are the troops of which General Lee spoke to you, and which we hoped would be in position last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Cross-Roads, New Kent County, May 14, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

SIR: The cavalry force of this army is inadequate—entirely out of proportion to the other arms of the service.

I am informed that there are many bodies of cavalry in Virginia under your control. If so, I beg that they may be assigned here, as it is certain that their services cannot be more valuable elsewhere. It is said that there are several of these bodies of cavalry at or near Richmond.

I solicit your earliest attention to this matter, as time is all important to us now.

Most respectfully, your servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 14, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of this morning, and agreeably with your request I have directed General Winder to have a guard stationed at the railroad depot to arrest stragglers from your army. I have also ordered Colonel Walton to proceed with his artillery to report to you, with the exception of one battery, which was stationed on yesterday at Chaffin's Bluff, to resist the ascent of the enemy's boats, or at least to annoy them.

As soon as I can replace the battery of Colonel Walton's command I will order it to join him.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CAMP REAR GUARD, *May* 14, 1862.

Major-General HILL,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: Yours of yesterday is acknowledged,* and in answer I beg leave to recall to your mind that my command was the first to leave Yorktown by your order, and consequently I know nothing of the location of "torpedoes" at the places mentioned, nor do I believe it, as wells or springs of water, barrels of flour, carpet-bags, &c., are places incompatible with the invention.

That invention is strictly mine, as well as the essential parts of Colt's weapons, for the use of which I have never been called to account.

If it be required to know what use I have made of the invention, I answer I commanded at Yorktown for the last seven months, and when General McClellan approached with his army of 100,000 men and opened his cannon upon us I had but 2,500 in garrison, and our whole Army of the Peninsula, under Major-General Magruder, amounted to but 9,300 effective men; then, at a salient angle, an accessible point of our works, as part of the defenses thereof, I had the land mined with the weapons alluded to, to destroy assailants and prevent *escalade*. Subsequently, with a similar view, they were placed at spots I never saw.

And, again, when at Williamsburg we were ordered to turn upon our assailants and combat them, which we did successfully, most of us without food for forty-eight hours, having stood all night in the rain without fire or light, the second of our vigils, cold and drenched to the skin, we took up our line of march to the rear by order, and when physical endurance had been taxed to the utmost, at a place of mud slushes, where it was impossible for us to fight or bring a single cannon to bear, some 6 or 7 miles this side of Williamsburg, my command forming the rear guard of the army, and the enemy advancing upon our wearied and scattered troops, firing his cannon along the road, some four small shells, found abandoned by our artillery, were hastily prepared by my efforts and put in the road near a tree felled across, mainly to have a moral effect in checking the advance of the enemy (for they were too small to do more) to save our sick, wounded, and enfeebled, who straggled in our rear.

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*See Mason to Hill, May 12, 1862, p. 511.

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Finally, I conclude by stating that the enemy's vessels appoached Yorktown April 6, 1862, and without a word of warning to innocent women and children, as at New Berne, N. C., my native place, they commenced to pitch into the town, at a distance of 4 miles, entirely beyond the range of our guns, massive beams of iron 18 inches long and enormous shells (which they continued for a month), both by day and even at the hour of midnight, bursting with awful noise and scattering their death-dealing fragments among the innocent and unoffending, fiendish acts unknown among civilized nations, reversing the scriptural text that it is better for ninety-nine guilty persons to escape than for one innocent to suffer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. J. RAINS,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Brigade, Rear Guard.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 14, 1862—8 p. m.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I have just heard from the general that there are strong indications of a movement around our left, and that to-night. Be prepared to hear it early in the morning; though the general writes, at the same time he thinks that the enemy will not risk a battle now that the James River is opened to their gunboats. The fight, it is thought, will be a great thing for us.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

The general wants your division to cross the river at Turner's Bridge. Your wagons had better go on as they now are and camp as before directed.

There are plenty of rations at the Dispatch Station. We will not cross, of course, if the battle may be.

J. L.

RICHMOND, *May* 14, 1862.

PROVOST-MARSHAL, *Petersburg:*

You will afford the owners of negroes who desire to remove them on the approach of the enemy, and are obstructed by the persons to whom they are hired, such facilities as they would have if martial law had not been declared, and you may consult counsel on the subject.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, *May* 14, 1862.

WILLIAM PANNILL,
Provost-Marshal, Petersburg:

Permit the owners of every kind of property to remove it to places of safety, if they desire to do so.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

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RICHMOND, *May* 14, 1862.

WILLIAM T. JOYNES, Esq., *Petersburg:*

In the present state of affairs I think it would be wholly unjustifiable to impede the transportation of troops and munitions of war for the purpose of facilitating the removal of private property.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 15, 1862.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MAHONE,
Commanding, &c., Drewry's Bluff:

GENERAL: Orders were issued on yesterday for your command to move to the south side of James River, in the vicinity of Drewry's Bluff. It is desired that you at once take charge of the river defenses at that point, and make such use of your troops and resources as may be best calculated to prevent the ascent of the river by the gunboats of the enemy. The work of obstructing the river should be prosecuted with ceaseless vigor and the batteries pushed forward to completion with all possible dispatch. Commander Farrand, of the Navy, has the river obstruction under his immediate command, and will man and fight certain guns as far as the naval force will permit. Capt. T. J. Page, of the Navy, is engaged upon the obstructions, &c., at Warwick Bar.

It will be necessary to harmonize these several operations and to give vigor and energy to the whole. You will draw such working parties from your brigade as may be necessary for the uninterrupted prosecution of the works; and should additional force for manning the heavy guns be required, it is suggested that the company "United Artillery," under Captain Kevill, be devoted to this purpose.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 15, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: There is no official information from Drewry's Bluff since the opening of the fight this morning. The report given me by Captain Zimmer, who is connected with the Ordnance Department, and who was present, is to the effect that the fire of the enemy was very bad; that we had set the Galena on fire (trifling, I suppose); that the boats had dropped down the river (how far he did not say), and that at times the fire from the bombs by our infantry was pretty brisk, though with what effect it is not stated.

General Lee has gone down the river again this morning. I will avail myself of this opportunity to disavow any intentional breach of military etiquette in the letters forwarded you from this office some days since, written for General Lee's signature, and signed informally by me in his absence. I trust his explanation was satisfactory to you.

I do not vouch for the accuracy of Captain Zimmer's statement, though he is "reliable," and the city credits the reports.

Most respectfully, &c.,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, with General Lee.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 15, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward for your information the following copy of a dispatch just received from Major-General Ewell, dated Swift Run Gap, May 14, 1862:

Under instructions from General Jackson I am moving down the valley. I have ordered part of the forces to cross the ridge via Madison Court-House and Fisher's Gap.

General Mahone, who is in command at Drewry's Bluff, where he has most of his brigade, reports that the enemy's gunboats opened on the batteries on the river this morning at 8 o'clock. Only the two iron boats engaged. No one exposed and no chance for sharpshooters. No signs of landing.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1862.

General B. HUGER,
Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of yesterday's date, reporting the execution of the orders relative to the movement of General Mahone's brigade, &c. As regards your request to have officers acquainted with the localities sent you, I know of none except the engineer officers sent by Captain Rives, and who are well acquainted with the topography of the country along the river. You can employ local guides, who would be able to render you material assistance in becoming acquainted with the roads, localities, &c.

In my telegram of yesterday, in reply to yours relative to the destruction of the wharf and warehouse at City Point, I intended to convey the idea that the property should be destroyed if it was of a character to be useful to the enemy. Not being on the spot, and having no knowledge of either wharf or warehouse, I left it to your judgment to decide of the advisability of the step proposed.

Cavalry is very much needed with General Johnston. I desire you to send the four companies formerly of the Wise Legion, and recently stationed at Murfreesborough, to join their regiment, under Colonel Davis, as soon as practicable.

I would suggest that a battery of light artillery be placed at Mill Rock to oppose the ascent of the river by the enemy's transports. It has been reported that this bluff might be blasted, so as to obstruct the channel; please examine into feasibility of this step. If practicable, it might be blasted so as to crush the boats in passing or after their passage, so as to shut them in.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of this morning. As regards

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the future movements of the enemy, it is impossible to divine which plan of attack he will adopt. I presume, however, he will avail himself of the river as far up as possible. He may come beyond City Point; he may go to Port Walthall. It would appear advisable, therefore, that you keep your command light and movable, so as to move with celerity to any point he may select. The river should be well picketed by trusty men, to keep you advised of any movement up the river by the boats and transports of the enemy. I think the Blackwater too far removed for you to keep a force stationed there; it would be in constant danger of being cut off and too remote to be relieved.

I expect the reports in Colonel Tomlin's letter are much exaggerated. They cannot have the tremendous force which they are represented to have everywhere. If they are in such strength along the Norfolk road they cannot come in the same strength up the river. Any considerable force that may advance from Norfolk must diminish the army on the Peninsula. This McClellan is not likely to do, for he is even now calling for re-enforcements.

In retiring along the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad it should be so destroyed as to prevent its use by the enemy. So far as I can learn the road is almost intact. The stone piers of the bridges should be destroyed as well as the bridges themselves. If you find that the enemy is coming up the river, it may be necessary for you to retire in this direction, so as to take a part in the contest which must take place near Richmond. It is advisable that you make all arrangements in view of this contingency.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of 15th instant.* The letter to General Huger which you forwarded through me has never been received. As I informed you on yesterday, he had been previously directed to send a brigade to the vicinity of the batteries and obstructions on the south side of the river. Colonel Stuart, with the Fifty-sixth Virginia Regiment, also a battery of light artillery and the 30-pounder rifled gun (served by Captain Dabney's company), is on this side.

I inclose you General Mahone's report of the engagement yesterday with enemy's boats.† General Huger wrote me yesterday that he expected Blanchard's and Armistead's brigades in Petersburg last evening. There is no force in this city, as you seem to infer from my letter on the subject of subsistence.

I have requested that Major Blair, acting commissary of subsistence, be reassigned to duty with your army.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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*Not found.
† Not found. See Series I, Vol. XI, Part I, p. 636.

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P. S.—I sent you on yesterday the latest information from Generals Jackson and Ewell. I presume it was received by you subsequently to the writing of your letter.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: In reply to that portion of your letter of yesterday's date* relating to the works for the defense of James River, I will state that the redoubt at Drewry's Bluff is armed with seven of our heaviest guns, well posted, but not as perfectly protected as designed, for want of time. The work, however, is progressing, and I presume we shall have a few days before the return of the enemy, which, if properly improved, much may be accomplished. To insure this I was obliged to halt General Mahone's brigade, or at least that portion of it with him, at Drewry's Bluff, place him in command, and direct him to push the work with vigor. The laborers, mechanics, and companies of unorganized regiments left at the first shot day before yesterday, and could not be controlled by the Navy; neither could proper scouts or vedettes be kept on the river to report the movements of the enemy, which gave rise to innumerable alarms and exaggerated reports.

The obstruction of the channel of the river also is progressing, but not satisfactorily. On this side of the river a battery is under construction by Major Stevens at Warwick Bar, where a second line or barrier has been commenced by sinking boats. Two guns are designed for this position. Major Stevens also projects a three-gun battery on the left bank of the river, opposite Drewry's, to unite with the battery at that point. Chaffin's Bluff, on the left, about 2 miles below, is occupied by Colonel Stuart's Virginia regiment, the rifled 32-pounder, and a light battery. I have supposed if your army took a position so near this city its right would rest in that vicinity. You will see by the reports of yesterday's fight that the enemy were driven back by batteries, with supposed damage.

I telegraphed to you yesterday that Major Stevens desired the services of Captain Douglas, engineer on General Magruder's staff, and a Mr. Douglass, a builder, if he could be spared by you.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 16, 1862.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Please have your command in readiness to move at a moment's warning. Your train had better stretch out at once. My division is to take position at Drewry's Bluff—sharpshooters against gunboats. Your division will be posted on this road, and about 6 miles out from Richmond.

If you can send me a staff officer I will endeavor to point out your position in such a way as to get your troops and wagons on the same

*Not found.

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side of the river at least. You had better send two, if you can spare them, or a courier with your officer to guide you to the place. My division will move in front of the wagons and go on to its position. Yours will have [to] come behind your wagons, and will find its position by the guide that you will send to me.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 16, 1862.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I have no rations that I know of; will endeavor to get some for you as soon as possible. Rations were to spare, you know, yesterday. I believe I showed you the general's note in which he said that the delay was on account of the surplus rations at the station. If I can get them, where will you have them? Where you now are or at the place you expect to be? In the mean time make your own commissary take care to look out for you. It is as much as my commissary can do to look out for this division. I have no extra man for that service, and yours should be as able to take care of you as mine.

I consider that you are only under my command for the purposes of the march and battle and its appendages, such as guards.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

Rations for a day will be sent you, my commissary says, and reach you by 9 o'clock.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 16, 1862.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MAHONE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: On the 12th instant eight companies of heavy artillery were sent to Drewry's Bluff and Chaffin's Bluff to assist in the construction of the batteries being erected on James River at those points. The companies were those of Captains Bowyer, Delaney, Price, Sale, Jones, Bailey, Pierce, and Patterson. In consideration of the presence of your brigade and the increase in the number of laborers since that time, they are regarded as no longer necessary for the prosecution of the work in question; and as they were about being organized with others into a regiment of infantry, I am directed by General Lee to say that he desires you to order them to report to the commanding officer at Camp Lee, near this city, that they may complete their organization and equipment.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 17, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I had the honor to reply yesterday to that portion of your letter of the 15th instant relating to the works and obstructions for the defense of James River. In relation to the information brought by your scouts of the position of the Federal army and your impression that General McClellan may place his troops in communication with the fleet on James River, I think there can be little doubt as to the correctness of your views on this latter point. It is evidently now his best policy to do so, and it is fair for us to conclude that his operations in front of Yorktown will be re-enacted in front of the obstructions on James River, unless you can prevent it. Will it be possible for you to strike him a successful blow in the passage of his army to James River and before he can have the co-operation of his gunboats? Should his course to James River be below the mouth of the Chickahominy this will be difficult, but should his march be across the Chickahominy his passage between that river and the James may furnish you the opportunity.

Although I have little doubt but that you have already considered this subject, your attention is now invited to it. By direction of the President I am endeavoring to organize and arm the companies of heavy artillery that have been serving at the different batteries on the Peninsula (at Norfolk), and expect to form two regiments. The companies of one are now with General Huger; of the other in this city. The latter, with all the other companies that can be armed, will be ordered down to you as soon as possible.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 17, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of the 14th, stating your great need of cavalry, I have the honor to say that four companies with the army under General Huger, and belonging to Colonel Davis' regiment, with you, have been ordered to join it. There are organized companies of cavalry in Virginia, but are entirely unarmed and poorly equipped. Efforts have been and are being made to prepare them for the field, and, if they can be got ready for the service, will be ordered to you.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 17, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON:

GENERAL: This will be handed to you by my aide, Colonel Lee, who is sent to communicate fully to you the condition of the works on James River and the positions and forces on the south side of it. He will give you the details of the attack by the gunboats. Since their repulse a better spirit prevails here, and we shall no doubt have some effective

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partisans from the citizens not subject to enrollment. There is much manifestation of a determination that the ancient and honored capital of Virginia, now the seat of the Confederate Government, shall not fall into the hands of the enemy. Many say rather let it be a heap of rubbish.

To you it is needless to say that the defense must be made outside of the city. The question is, where and how? If the enemy proceed as heretofore indicated, your position and policy, as you stated it in our last interview, seems to me to require no modification; but if, as reported here, he should change direction, and, leaving his boats on the Pamunkey, should cross the Peninsula to join those on the James River, the opportunity desired by you to meet him on the land will then be afforded. His boats can ascend some distance up the Chickahominy, and he will probably move to a point on that stream to effect a junction there. This diminishes the space within which his march will be exposed to your attack, unless he should cross the Chickahominy, which we can hardly hope.

There are disadvantages to you in operations below the stream, but if you must choose between that plan and one which gives the enemy the co-operation of his river transports and gunboats, it would seem that the balance would be on the side of the former.

As on all former occasions, my design is to suggest, not to direct, recognizing the impossibility of any one to decide in advance; and reposing confidently as well on your ability as your zeal, it is my wish to leave you with the fullest powers to exercise your judgment.

Colonel Lee will communicate freely with you and bear to me any information and reply which you may intrust to him.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letters of the 16th instant have been received.* The plan of your operations will be for the defense of the Petersburg and Wilmington Railroad, having in view at the same time the right bank of James River. With these objects in view you will exercise your own judgment and discretion. It will be necessary for you to thoroughly acquaint yourself with the nature of the country, &c., on your line of operations. It is evidently the intention of the enemy to concentrate his forces on the James River and operate in conjunction with the gunboats along the line of the river. You will watch closely his movements on your side of the river, and oppose him to the utmost of your ability whenever an opportunity occurs. When you are unable to hold him in check you will withdraw your forces, keeping them out of danger of being cut off from your main body. Should you be forced to do so, you will fall back with your whole force to the battery and obstructions at Drewry's Bluff, on James River. It is thought that you can annoy the enemy greatly with sharpshooters and light artillery as he advances up the river, and may possibly stop his transports.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 17, 1862.

General B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of this date is received. With reference to that part which relates to the obstruction of the Appomattox I have to say, that if you cannot obstruct it below Port Walthall you must select the most favorable point above that place for the purpose, and push the work as rapidly as possible. I have already written to you with reference to the other subjects mentioned in your letter.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CIRCULAR.] MAY 17, 1862.

The division commissary has sent around notice that he has rations of bread for one day and bacon for two days. Brigadiers will see that all the regiments and artillery under their command draw to-night, as we are ordered by General Johnston to move at daylight in the morning.

The near vicinity of the enemy requires that the brigades should be so disposed as to be ready to resist a night attack.

The trains will move at early dawn. The infantry will move when the wagons are fairly out of the way. The march is not expected to be long, and if those gentlemen of leisure the quartermasters are made to attend to their duty the journey can be performed without fatigue.

By order—

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

ORDERS } MAY 17, 1862.
No. —. }

Captain Armistead will take the eight guns from Gloucester up to Richmond and report to General Pendleton or the Secretary of War.

The heavy artillery battalion under Captain Montague, including the companies of Captains Bagby, Otey, Jordan, and his own, will report to General Rodes as a part of his brigade until further orders.

General Rodes will give from this battalion such assistance as he may deem necessary to Captain Armistead to drive his battery to Richmond, but not assistance enough to man the guns.

The Twenty-sixth Virginia, Colonel Page, and all the non-conscript militia who owe ninety days' service to the Confederacy, are assigned to the brigade of General Rodes.

The Forty-sixth Virginia, Colonel Richardson, is assigned to the brigade of General Featherston.

The cavalry, Major Douthat, will report directly to these headquarters.

Many of the regiments have more wagons than allowed by law, and our march is rendered vexatious and wearisome by the enormous train. Brigadiers will institute at once a rigid inspection of the wagons in their brigades and send off all the surplus (over seven to a regiment) to Richmond before noon to-day.

By order—

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, May 18, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I am directed by the President to say that, in locating your troops in the neighborhood of Richmond, he requests you will give strict orders that the residences, inclosures, gardens, &c., shall be strictly respected. Besides the individual injury that will otherwise result, the feelings of the people, now thoroughly enlisted in aid of the operations of the army, may be alienated from it.

He desires also that private houses be not taken for the use of the army without the consent of the owners and to their discomfort, as it has been stated to him in some instances has been done, no doubt without your knowledge.

As you are now so convenient to the city the President wishes you to confer with him upon your future plans, and for that purpose desires you to see him at his office.

Please say when it will be convenient for you to come in.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., May 19, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Department of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I inclose you an account for stock and corn taken by the army during the recent movement up the Peninsula, and request that you will cause inquiry to be made for the purpose of ascertaining what commissary and quartermaster should settle it.

I am instructed by the President to call your attention to the habit in which many of the regiments have fallen of burning the fences near their encampments and bivouacs, and I must request that you will issue orders requiring the 983d paragraph of the Army Regulations to be executed by the quartermasters of the respective brigades or regiments. Unless the destruction of fences can be arrested it will materially lessen the crop of the State and impair the power of the Government to subsist the Army. In all cases where injury is done to the locality in which troops are encamped it will be charged to the quartermaster, unless he inspects the premises and reports the regiment or company doing the damage and the extent of it, as required by the regulations quoted above; and in case such report is made the damage will be deducted from the pay of the parties inflicting the injury. I desire that you will make this known in your general orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 53. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 19, 1862.

Maj. W. B. Blair, chief commissary of subsistence, C. S. Army, hav-

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ing recovered his health and again reported for duty, will resume his former position as chief commissary of this army.

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Harrison's, Va., May 20, 1862.

General LEE:

GENERAL: I had the honor to write you on Saturday, expressing the opinion that it is absolutely necessary that the Department of Henrico should be included in my command. Having received no reply, I respectfully repeat the suggestion, and ask the President to have the proper orders in the case given. It is needless to remind either of you of the mischief inevitable from divided commands.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 20, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 17th, expressing your opinion of the necessity of the Department of Henrico being placed under your command, was submitted to the President, who directs me to state in reply that that department, comprising the city of Richmond and a circuit of 10 miles around, was specially constituted and placed under martial law, with a view to its civil as well as military government, which he does not think it would be advantageous to disturb in consequence of your army being in the vicinity. He is willing to reduce the limit of the department to a circuit of 5 miles around the city, if you do not wish it to extend within your camps, or to make any arrangement so as not to interfere with your control of your troops or operations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 20, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this morning, reporting the capture of a party of the enemy by our pickets at City Point, &c. Upon inquiry of General Winder he finds that the prisoners have been sent to Salisbury, N. C., which is what he would have directed had no disposition been made of them.

He hopes that the work of obstructing the Appomattox is being vigorously pushed forward, and that measures are being taken to protect the obstructions by artillery, rifle pits, &c. He instructs me to call your attention to the bridge over Swift Run Creek, between Petersburg and this city, and to the importance of having a force there to

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protect and guard it, if you have not already taken the necessary steps to insure its safety.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 20, 1862.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MAHONE,
Commanding, &c., Drewry's Bluff:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday,* and to say that he regrets to hear of the inefficiency of the river obstructions, and desires that the necessary measures be at once taken to strengthen them. He wishes an additional system of cribs immediately commenced above that already constructed; the first piers to be placed opposite those points which are weakest in the present line. He thinks the cribs should be made larger than those heretofore constructed (which are but 20 feet at the base), and that they should be at least 25, and had better be 30 feet in length in the direction of the flow of the river. The increase of size will of course tend materially toward making them effectual.

From your favorable report of the progress of the work at the batteries it is hoped that you will be enabled, without impeding erection, to employ some of the mechanics upon the construction of the cribs.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING ARMY,
Fairfield Course, May 21, 1862.

Maj. SAMUEL W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a communication of the 21st instant, stating that Major-General Smith, commanding, "has interrupted a very important conference in regard to the movements of the various armies in Virginia, in order to write (me), over his own signature," &c., "that the movements requisite to effect the dispositions in your (my) front requires time, and he earnestly desires that time may patiently be given to it." And mean time he does not feel the slightest solicitude in regard to the ability of your (my) infantry pickets to procure for (my) your command ample opportunity for the dispositions necessary to resist any attacks made upon it, adding that "the major-general would be glad at any hour, day or night, to be informed whenever an attack in force upon my lines is clearly threatened, but he begs that information, unless of that nature, will be sent at such time as not to deprive him of his necessarily limited hours of rest."

In reply I have to say that I have asked frequently for the last week or ten days that cavalry should be placed in front of my infantry, and the officers of the cavalry have orders to report to me the movements of the enemy in my front, but no reports from them reached me up to the time of the reception of your letter of the 19th instant.

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*Not found.

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I have no undue solicitude as to the ability of my infantry pickets to procure ample opportunity for the dispositions necessary to resist any attack of the enemy, but they have no more ability to procure this opportunity than any other infantry—for instance, that of Major-General Smith—and I do not see the propriety of their being kept more on the alert for this purpose than the infantry of Major-General Smith's immediate command, in front of which the cavalry is constantly kept and in close and frequent communication. Indeed, as both of his flanks are protected by troops of other divisions and one of mine is not, the propriety of cavalry acting with me seems the more manifest.

I did send to Major-General Smith, in Richmond, at night information that the enemy had advanced to the Old Church, in Hanover County, and had turned toward Hanover Court-House, and I gave him my views on the subject.

I sent this communication at 2 o'clock, and at his particular request, made to me at my quarters, that I would communicate to him all important information at the Spottswood House. I deemed this important, as it threatened the railroad, and ordered my troops to be ready to move at a moment's warning, knowing that it would be daylight before the order could be communicated to all of them, and believing that they would be moved farther to the left, as I thought they ought to be, so as to be in a position to defeat the enemy's design upon the railroad if he entertained it.

I have this moment received a report from Colonel Robertson, of the cavalry, showing that the railroads are in some danger, and proving that I was right in my views. Even a temporary possession of the railroads by the enemy would cause great mischief.

I have just learned accidentally from a citizen that there are two regiments of infantry at Hanover Court-House. Where they come from I know not.

I forward Colonel Robinson's letter.* I regret to have disturbed the rest of the major-general commanding the reserve and my wing, but having had for nearly a year sentinels stationed at my headquarters with orders to pass everybody to my bed-room with any communication in relation to the movements of the enemy or any other important character requiring action, and having in every case acted at once, I had become somewhat in the habit of disregarding hours, but do not remember to have ever inflicted this inconvenience upon him except on the occasion here stated, and then at his special request. I beg to assure the major-general that I shall be happy to carry out any instructions with which he may honor me, but believe it is the understanding that in all movements of troops I am to await his orders.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

MAY 21, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: There will be at least 6,000 arms made serviceable here, at the rate of 200 to 250 per day (some of them will be without bayonets). Have you unarmed regiments coming here to absorb them?

* Not found.

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I know nothing of the two regiments referred to in the inclosed letter. Shall I order anything to them?

Respectfully,

J. GORGAS,
Colonel, P. A. C. S.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 21, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: The President desires to know the number of troops around Richmond, how they are posted, and the organization of the divisions and brigades; also the programme of operations which you propose. The information relative to the composition and position of your army can readily be furnished, but your plan of operations, dependent upon circumstances perhaps yet to be developed, may not be so easily explained, nor may it be prudent to commit it to paper. I would therefore respectfully suggest that you communicate your views on this subject personally to the President, which perhaps would be more convenient to you and satisfactory to him.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

Strength of the several brigades of the Army of Northern Virginia near Richmond, as shown by General Johnston's memorandum of May 21, 1862.

FIRST (SMITH'S) DIVISION.

Whiting's brigade	2,396
Hood's brigade	1,922
Hampton's brigade	2,225
Hatton's brigade	2,030
Pettigrew's brigade	2,017
	10,592

SECOND (LONGSTREET'S) DIVISION.

A. P. Hill's brigade	2,512
Pickett's brigade	2,460
R. H. Anderson's brigade	2,168
Wilcox's brigade	2,616
Colston's brigade	1,750
Pryor's brigade	2,310
	13,816

THIRD (MAGRUDER'S) DIVISION.

McLaws' brigade	2,084
Kershaw's brigade	2,567
Griffith's brigade	2,534
Cobb's brigade	3,796
Toombs' brigade	2,357
D. R. Jones' brigade	2,342
Cabell's reserve artillery	240
	15,920

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FOURTH (D. H. HILL'S) DIVISION.

Early's brigade	2,380
Rodes' brigade	3,040
Rains' brigade	1,830
Featherston's brigade	2,224
Crump's brigade	787
Ward's command	890
	11,151
Stuart's cavalry brigade	1,289
Pendleton's reserve artillery (56 guns)	920

RECAPITULATION.

1st Division	10,592
2d Division	13,816
3d Division	15,920
4th Division	11,151
Cavalry Brigade	1,289
Reserve Artillery	920
Grand total	53,688

Organization of the Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston, near Richmond, Va., May 21, 1862.

FIRST DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH commanding.

Whiting's Brigade.

4th Alabama.
2d Mississippi.
11th Mississippi.
6th North Carolina.
Reilly's (North Carolina) battery.
Staunton (Virginia) Artillery.

Hampton's Brigade.

14th Georgia.
19th Georgia.
Hampton Legion.
16th North Carolina.
Moody's (Louisiana) battery.

Hood's Brigade.

18th Georgia.
1st Texas.
4th Texas.
5th Texas.

Hatton's Brigade.

1st Tennessee.
7th Tennessee.
14th Tennessee.
Braxton's (Virginia) battery.

Pettigrew's Brigade.

Arkansas Battalion.
35th Georgia.
22d North Carolina.
47th Virginia.
Andrews' battery.

SECOND DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JAMES LONGSTREET commanding.

A. P. Hill's Brigade.

1st Virginia.
7th Virginia.
11th Virginia.
17th Virginia.
Rogers' (Virginia) battery.

Pickett's Brigade.

8th Virginia.
18th Virginia.
19th Virginia.
28th Virginia.
Dearing's (Virginia) battery.

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SECOND DIVISION—Continued.

R. H. Anderson's Brigade.

4th South Carolina.
5th South Carolina.
6th South Carolina.
9th South Carolina.
Stribling's (Virginia) battery.

Wilcox's Brigade.

9th Alabama.
10th Alabama.
11th Alabama.
19th Mississippi.
Stanard's (Virginia) battery.

Colston's Brigade.

13th North Carolina.
14th North Carolina.
3d Virginia.

Pryor's Brigade.

8th Alabama.
14th Alabama.
14th Louisiana.
Macon's (Virginia) battery.

THIRD DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER commanding.

McLaws' Brigade.

5th Louisiana.
10th Louisiana.
Noland's battalion.
15th Virginia.
Garrett's (Virginia) battery.
Young's (Virginia) battery.

Kershaw's Brigade.

2d South Carolina.
3d South Carolina.
7th South Carolina.
8th South Carolina.
Gracie's battalion.
Kemper's (Virginia) battery.

Griffith's Brigade.

1st Louisiana Battalion.
13th Mississippi.
18th Mississippi.
21st Mississippi.
Howitzer (Virginia) Battery.

Cobb's Brigade.

16th Georgia.
24th Georgia.
Cobb's Georgia Legion.
2d Louisiana.
17th Mississippi.
15th North Carolina.
Page's (Virginia) battery.

Toombs' Brigade.

1st Georgia.
2d Georgia.
15th Georgia.
17th Georgia.
38th Georgia.

D. R. Jones' Brigade.

7th Georgia.
8th Georgia.
9th Georgia.
11th Georgia.
1st Kentucky.

Cabell's Reserve Artillery.

Cosnahan's (Virginia) battery.
Manly's (North Carolina) battery.
Read's (Georgia) battery.
Sands' (Virginia) battery.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL commanding.

Early's Brigade.

5th North Carolina.
23d North Carolina.
24th Virginia.
38th Virginia.
Jeff. Davis (Alabama) Artillery.

Rodes' Brigade.

5th Alabama.
6th Alabama.
12th Alabama.
12th Mississippi.
King William (Virginia) Artillery.

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FOURTH DIVISION—Continued.

Rains' Brigade.

13th Alabama.
26th Alabama.
6th Georgia.
23d Georgia.

Featherston's Brigade.

27th Georgia.
28th Georgia.
4th North Carolina.
49th Virginia.

Crump's Brigade.

46th Virginia.
9th Virginia Militia.
21st Virginia Militia.
61st Virginia Militia.
Detachment cavalry.
Matthews Light Dragoons.
Armistead's battery.

Ward's Command.

2d Florida.
2d Mississippi Battalion.

Cavalry Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. E. B. STUART commanding.

1st Virginia.
4th Virginia.
Jeff. Davis Legion.
Horse Artillery.

Reserve Artillery.

Brig. Gen. W. N. PENDLETON commanding.

Pendleton's artillery corps.
Washington (Louisiana) Artillery.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 22, 1862.

Major-General HUGER,
Commanding, Petersburg:

DEAR GENERAL: The enemy is now near the Chickahominy, his advanced troops showing themselves yesterday at the bridge of the New Kent road and near that, directly opposite to Richmond, on the Mechanicsville turnpike.

Little progress has been made in the bridge which I mentioned to you a few days ago, thanks to the peace establishment habits of the Richmond officials.

The army in four divisions has its right on the Charles City Court-House road, behind Cornelius Creek, and its left near and outside of the Fairfield Race-Course. It is necessary that you should be ready to go at a moment's notice wherever a considerable action may occur—to Drewry's Bluff, in the event of an advance upon it of a character to indicate that land forces are to be used in the attack, or to Richmond, should the Federal Army approach it from the east.

Could the railroad company furnish the means of transporting your whole force at once; if not, how much of it? I suppose at least half, and that in that way all might be brought in the course of a night without the fatigue of a march. How long a time would be required to collect the engines and cars necessary for your purpose? Can any arrangement be made now which would expedite your starting any time? If so, please have it made.

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You will oblige me by giving to the officer who will deliver this to you a statement of your force in infantry, cavalry, and artillery—such as you can have made from the knowledge of your staff officers or your own, without reference elsewhere.

Any suggestions or information which you can give will oblige me greatly. The position you should occupy is matter of great interest. If the railroad can furnish you quick transportation, Petersburg may be that point; otherwise it will be necessary I think for you to place yourself near Drewry's Bluff, with a strong rear guard at Petersburg.

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 22, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Comdg. Army of Northern Virginia, Hdqrs. near Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL. Your letter of this morning relative to the construction of the bridge near Drewry's Bluff has been received.* Upon inquiring of the acting chief engineer I find that everything necessary for the construction of a bridge has been furnished Captain Blackford and sent down to-day except labor. Fifty laborers have also been sent down, and others will be sent as soon as they can be procured. Owing to the difficulty of getting hands it will be necessary to draw any additional force that may be wanted from the troops stationed in contiguous positions to the work.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 22, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your letter of this morning * by Major Whiting has been received, and I can only assure you that there is no question as to the extent of your authority or command. The troops at and around Drewry's Bluff are commanded by General Mahone and are a part of General Huger's division, whose operations you of course control.

As regards the work at Drewry's Bluff, it was commenced under the general plan and superintendence of Captain Rives and subsequently has been placed in immediate charge of the Navy. The system adopted is so far advanced as to render it hazardous to change it, and the only thing to be done is to strengthen and complete it as fast as possible. Captain Clarke is considered the constructing engineer, and I see no objection to Major Stevens having the general control, if his other duties will permit, or at least to his giving to Captain Clarke and the naval officers in charge the benefit of his experience and knowledge. But the President is unwilling to disturb the arrangement with the Navy Department now existing further than is necessary to insure the gen-

*Not found.

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eral control of the military operations now exercised by General Mahone, who is of course subject to your orders.

I am, general, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 22, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER, *Petersburg, Va.:*

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, reporting progress of the work of obstructing Appomattox River, the force stationed at Swift Creek, &c. The general desires you to report the progress made in the organization of the Ninth Virginia Regiment; also a return showing the number of arms on hand and the number required to complete its armament.

As regards the assignment of Captain Kevill's company to the battery at Drewry's Bluff, he instructs me to say that the battery is one of the greatest importance, is within your command, and will have to be manned by troops from your division. He understands that the company in question was one of the best, and thought it advisable to place it at Drewry's. You might give the siege guns to Captain Hupp or some other company used to this service.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 22, 1862.

Brig. Gen. L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: I have just received your note of to-day.

You have two purposes to accomplish: To connect this army with that of Brigadier-General Anderson, near Fredericksburg, and to protect the railroad.

General Anderson has cavalry between the Pamunkey and Mattapony; that of General Stuart, belonging to this army, is in your front, its left on the Pamunkey. Put yourself in communication. It must keep you informed of all the enemy's movements.

This army is near Richmond, with outposts near Mechanicsville and Meadow Bridge.

If too strongly pressed, or you hear of a battle, join us. The object of protecting the railroad will make it necessary for you to dispose of and place your troops according to the enemy's movements.

Keep up a communication with the troops at Meadow Bridge.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Fairfield Race-Course, May 22, 1862.

Major-General [G. W.] SMITH,
[*Commanding Reserve, &c., Harrison's Farm:*]

SIR: I desire to withdraw the troops from New Bridge, leaving only one regiment at the Old Tavern, so that I may concentrate my forces

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at Mechanicsville and Meadow Bridge, as the enemy are represented to be 20,000 strong near these places. The prisoners that I examined place the number at a higher figure.

I will be at Brigadier-General McLaws', so that you will please dispatch the courier with an answer to his headquarters with as little delay as possible.

I have the honor to be, &c., your obedient servant,

[J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER.]

CHARLESTON, *May* 22, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Richmond:*

I cannot spare any troops unless positively ordered.

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

MAY 23, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I went yesterday afternoon to Mechanicsville, and was there during the artillery firing, which you no doubt heard. General Lee was with me, and at my request will see you. Colonel Johnston, aide-de-camp, accompanied me, and will deliver this note to you. To him I refer you for any facts you may desire to learn.

I saw General Stuart and General Cobb, but as neither of them communicated to me any plan of operations, or appeared to know what troops were in front as we approached, I suppose neither of them could have been commanding in chief at that locality. My conclusion was, that if, as reported to be probable, General Franklin, with a division, was in that vicinity he might easily have advanced over the turnpike toward if not to Richmond.

Very respectfully, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 23, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of this morning* inclosing one from General Huger relative to certain arrangements to be made to enable him to transport his troops rapidly by railroad. I have referred the matter to the Quartermaster-General, and requested him to effect the arrangements desired, if practicable.

Governor Clark, of North Carolina, has been requested by telegraph to-day to send a brigade of four regiments, under General Martin, to Petersburg, for the purpose of defending the road leading to Weldon. He was told that the four regiments could be armed from here, and two batteries of light artillery also sent to form a part of the brigade. After the arrival of these troops the whole line of railroad from Peters-

* Not found.

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burg to Wilmington will be placed under the command of Major-General Holmes. It would then be no longer necessary to keep any of General Huger's command at Petersburg. If Governor Clark forwards the regiments I will duly apprise you of the fact.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 23, 1862.

Brig. Gen. L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: Since my dispatch addressed to you at Gordonsville the enemy's positions have been changed. They are now nearer to the Chickahominy. Do not, therefore, consider Hanover Court-House your station, but be governed by circumstances in placing your troops. Colonel Robertson, of the cavalry, can give the information you require for this object, and will keep you informed of the movements of the Federal troops.

I suppose that a position much nearer the Chickahominy than your present one would be better. Of this, however, you must judge.

The regiment which preceded you to Hanover Court-House does not belong to your brigade, I believe. It must for the present form a part of your command.

In the event of a general engagement within your reach, in the absence of other orders, attack the enemy's flank, if you can.

In a few days General J. R. Anderson will probably be near you.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

Please inform me of all movements of your troops.

J. E. J.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Fairfield Race-Course, May 23, 1862.

Major RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Having understood from General Johnston, in conversation near the cross-roads some weeks since, that the arrangement by which my command was placed under Major-General Smith was in consequence of the army being massed in about equal numbers on two roads, requiring two commanders, and that the arrangement was temporary, I have now the honor to request that my command be no longer attached to that of Major-General Smith, but that I be authorized to report as usual to the general commanding the army.

These commands are now acting separately, and there would seem to be no necessity that an inconvenience and delay arising from the present arrangement, without mentioning other obvious reasons for my wishing a command independent of an officer of the same grade with myself.

I hope the above may be sufficient to induce the general to accede to my request.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Fairfield, May 23, 1862.

Major MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of General Smith's communications of to-day, but after mine had been sent to him.

Before he designated where the regiments should be taken I had already ordered two from General Jones' command and two pieces of artillery with two regiments of cavalry to occupy and fight for Mechanicsville, which is a commanding position and where the railroad can best be protected.

After hearing from General Smith I ordered another regiment from General McLaws to take post also at Mechanicsville, and carried out his instructions in other respects. I sent copies of his letters to Generals Jones and McLaws, as to details on the halt. I do not know where General Stuart is.

I have been at Meadow Bridge all the morning and gave the orders to the cavalry direct. General Stuart, however, stated to me early this morning that he intended to order his cavalry to occupy Mechanicsville.

The enemy is very quiet to-day, and his pickets are within three-quarters of a mile of Mechanicsville. Now I am satisfied he will attack that place in force, and that he has been making his preparations to-day. I therefore think he will overcome our small force, of, say, 3,000 men, but I think that, if I am permitted to throw over now one-half of McLaws command and the rest of Jones except a regiment and plenty of artillery to hold the crests at each place, we will obtain a victory which may derange his plans.

If you agree with me and General Johnston sanctions let me know in half an hour.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Fairfield Race-Course, May 23, 1862—9 p. m.

Major MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have just received your note dated 7.30 p. m., May 23. I did propose a concentration of my force nearer the city yesterday on a narrower circle, and because the enemy was advancing, and could, if he pleased, outflank me, and might even occupy, if he were enterprising, our fortifications farther to my left, and because no force was thrown forward across the Chickahominy capable of opposing such advance.

I understood General Stuart to say this morning early that he had ordered the cavalry to reoccupy Mechanicsville. When I arrived at Meadow Bridge I found that all the cavalry were on this side of the Chickahominy except a few pickets; that General Stuart was not there, as far as I could learn in the neighborhood, and that Colonel Robertson had no orders.

Having received orders from you to place two regiments and a piece at or near Mechanicsville, as was done yesterday, I directed the two regiments to be taken from General Jones' command, to save time, and two pieces of artillery, as I had learned the enemy were in some force

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and near that place, and ordered the two cavalry regiments of Robertson and Lee to occupy the place also, as I supposed was the intention of General Stuart.

These dispositions were made when I received another order from General Smith directing that the two regiments to hold Mechanicsville and to support the cavalry should be detailed from General McLaws' command.

I thought it more in accordance with his views to detail one regiment from General McLaws' command, as he appeared to desire that some troops should come from him, and as he further stated that the object was to support the cavalry, hold the enemy in check, and not to give up the ground except in case of a real attack in force. I could not see how these were to be accomplished unless the force there fought him when he appeared. I therefore ordered Colonel Robertson, who was the ranking officer of those then sent over, to fight him should he advance on Mechanicsville, and if forced to retreat that the whole should do so by the Meadow Bridge, and if that were impracticable, by the Brooke Turnpike Bridge.

I still thought and think now that the enemy will advance to-morrow with probably 10,000 men, and that he can be driven back by us if we crossed over that number to-night. I therefore made the proposition to you, as I would be responsible for the movement if it were permitted.

I stated that if I could get an answer in half an hour it could be done, having calculated the time it would take to cross.

Brigadier-General McLaws, to whom you allude, was, as well as myself, in favor of concentrating my command so as to afford a stronger resistance to the enemy; at least so I understood a letter from him to me received the night before last, but which was returned to him. I shall send your letter of instructions to Colonel Robertson or the officer in command at Mechanicsville, and direct him to be guided by it in lieu of any instructions in relation to the same subject of mine.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 23, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. H. WINDER,
Commanding, Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say that you will order the following light batteries, viz, Captains Rhett's, Stamps', Peyton's, Clark's, Moseley's, Forrest's, and Lloyd's to report without delay to General J. E. Johnston for service in the field. The general also directs that you will cause to be immediately armed and equipped as infantry Colonel Harris' battalion of heavy artillery, now at Camp Lee. This battalion is composed of the following companies: Bowyer's, Price's, Patterson's, and Jones'; also to have the arms of Captains Bossieux' and Carrington's heavy artillery companies inspected, and the worthless arms turned in and replaced by serviceable ones.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 118. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., May* 23, 1862.

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IV. Col. J. Thomas Goode's Fourth Regiment, Virginia Heavy Artillery, is assigned to duty as infantry with Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise's brigade, and will report accordingly, without delay, to General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding Department of Northern Virginia.

V. Lieutenant-Colonel Harris' battalion, Virginia Heavy Artillery, will, without delay, report for duty as infantry to General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding Department of Northern Virginia.

* * * * * * *

VII. Maj. Gen. J. B. Magruder is assigned to the command of the Trans-Mississippi District, of Department No. 2, and will report to this office for instructions.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP NEAR AYLETT'S, KING WILLIAM, *May* 24, 1862.

Brig. Gen. L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: By direction of General J. R. Anderson I send a courier this morning to open communication with you, and not knowing your adjutant I have to address myself directly to yourself.

I have the honor to report the results of numerous and extensive reconnaissances (made in person and by small parties sent out by me) along the banks of both the Pamunkey and Mattapony Rivers and for a short distance down the York.

There are no Federal troops in this county except a few guards and pickets at West Point, Williams' Ferry, and Mrs. Munday's. There are numerous vessels lying in the Pamunkey all the way from West Point to Garlick's, but they are congregated mostly at the White House and at Taylor's quarters, 2 miles above West Point. Much the larger part of the vessels consist of sailing transports and store vessels.

Last night there was great activity in the arrival and debarkation of troops at the White House. Since Tuesday last none have arrived, and those previously landed have nearly all been sent forward in heavy columns along the line of the York River Railroad and by the old Cold Harbor road, through the lower end of Hanover.

Since Saturday last a great many of the enemy's armed vessels have disappeared, going off in the night, and, as the people living on the river suppose, to James River. A gunboat came up the Mattapony on Monday last, but got aground some 4 or 5 miles below the village of Aylett's, and when she got off put down the river and went out of it, since which time there has been no reappearance of hostile boats in that stream. Persons who were taken on board, however, were told that a lighter draught boat would be sent up in a few days to capture the vessels or destroy them and the stores lying at and near Aylett's. These stores could all be easily saved if proper effort was made, as it is only some 20 miles to the railroad, but there is no quartermaster or quartermaster's agent here having the requisite authority, and in the mean time vessels and cargoes quietly await the inevitable hour of the enemy's approach,

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which must soon be, unless we keep him too busy in the mighty task of taking Richmond.

On Wednesday there was much activity among the shipping on the Pamunkey; many arrivals and departures. The inward bound were generally loaded with stores, forage, &c., and the outward bound were all light. On neither were any troops observed.

McClellan's army, according to the statement of Colonel Black, of Pennsylvania (Ex-Governor of Nebraska), made to Mr. Roger Gregory, of this county, on Saturday last, numbers 120,000 men.

There is nothing indicating a move through this county on General Anderson's rear. There is more danger of a flank movement on General Johnston's left, involving the railroads, communications, &c.

I learn from one of my scouting parties that got to camp on yesterday that Federal officers were at Mrs. Braxton's (a little below the Old Church in Hanover) on Monday or Tuesday, selecting a place of encampment for a large force. The ferryman at New Castle and the overseer on Mrs. Braxton's estate say that the officers marked out a very large area and said they wanted room for 8,000 or 10,000 men. The point of selection is equally convenient for a flank movement or a direct one along the Cold Harbor road, and there is very little difference in distance from it either to Richmond or to Hanover Court-House.

My friend Captain Old, commanding cavalry near Hanover Court-House, wrote me a note which I received yesterday, expressing a wish to establish communication with me, and I am desirous of doing so, but my number is small and my horses worked hard. If, however, you will instruct the captain to send a courier to Mangohick Church, in this county, each day, I can meet him there as a common point nearly equidistant from Aylett's and the Court-House. I suggest that the courier should be directed not to leave Mangohick before the arrival of one from my camp.

It will afford me pleasure, general, to furnish prompt intelligence of any noteworthy facts that I may obtain, and I shall certainly dispatch a fleet messenger to you when anything occurs. Please inform me by return of the bearer of the news generally, and furnish me your day and night signals and countersign.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir,

B. B. DOUGLAS,
Captain, Ninth Virginia Cavalry, Comdg., on Detached Service.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
May 24, 1862.

Captain McClung will establish communications with Captain Douglas in the manner suggested within.

Return this letter to me.

L. O'B. BRANCH,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Harrison's, May 24, 1862—11.30 p. m.

General LONGSTREET:

DEAR GENERAL: I have just read your note, having been to Richmond. Huger telegraphed to me that Blanchard's brigade started this

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afternoon from Petersburg for Drewry's Bluff. I intend it to relieve Anderson; so soon as it arrives let Anderson understand that he is to rejoin you.

I regard the battery you mention as a folly; the guns should be together at Drewry's. Let Hill to-morrow furnish the necessary supports on the roads below.

Yours, truly,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 24, 1862.

Col. THOMAS S. RHETT,
Inspector of Ordnance, Richmond, Va.:

COLONEL: In reply to your letter of the 23d* I am directed by General Lee to say that having no control over the guns belonging to the Navy, he cannot cause any other disposition to [be] made of them than such as they desire. The two 8-inch columbiads now ready and asked for by Major Stevens must go to the James River batteries. The 9-inch Dahlgren and 8-inch columbiad now in course of preparation may be sent to General French at Wilmington if not required for the defense of James River.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 24, 1862.

Major-General HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: By order of the commanding-general I report to you that my brigade is assigned to your division. At present my brigade has—

1st. One regiment of cavalry, under Col. J. Lucius Davis, not yet organized by election of its field officers. The election was to have been held to day; but the whole regiment ready for service is already detached and ordered to report to General Stuart.

2d. The Forty-sixth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, with seven companies only, several being on parole, with some expectation of an early exchange.

3d. The Twentieth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, with but two companies, which are ordered to be temporarily attached to the Forty-sixth until the Twentieth can be filled. These two companies are now in Richmond, under Brigadier-General Winder, who declines to turn them over until he receives orders from General Lee.

4th. The Twenty-sixth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, under Colonel Page, regularly organized. For these, the Forty-sixth, the two companies of the Twentieth attached, and for the Twenty-sixth, I have ordered, as you directed, a compact encampment, close in the rear of your headquarters. The moment my available forces are encamped I will take up my quarters with them in the field.

I beg that you will request General Lee to have the two companies of the Twentieth, ordered by General Johnston to be attached to the Forty-sixth, released from the orders of Brigadier-General Winder.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE.

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* Not found.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 116. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Richmond, May* 24, 1862.

Brig. Gen. Samuel Garland will report to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill for assignment to the brigade lately commanded by Brigadier-General Early.

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Harrison's, May 25, 1862.

General LEE:

GENERAL: The importance to the army of the appointment of several more general officers induces me to address you on the subject to-day. I hope in a day or two that Brigadier-General Anderson's command will be united to that of Brigadier-General Branch. This important force (important to us both from numbers and position) should be commanded by an able soldier, having adequate rank. A brigadier-general assigned to that command would neither exercise it with the same confidence nor be as readily and cheerfully obeyed as if he were first promoted; such an assignment would also give great dissatisfaction to the brigadier-generals now with those troops and to their friends.

The good of the service, in my opinion, requires the promotion of the officers already recommended by me for promotion to the grade of major-general.

I have been informed that Colonel Hampton has declined the promotion offered him. This makes Colonel Ewell's appointment legal, I presume.

I respectfully suggest that Colonel Beall, of the "Marine Corps," is eminently qualified for the grade of brigadier-general.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 25, 1862—10 a. m.

General L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: I have just received your letter dated yesterday, with a postscript of this morning.

In selecting your position consider the protection of the railroad, so far as it can be done without endangering your connection with the army.

Have all crossing places of the Chickahominy examined, and learn all routes leading to your positions, as well as those from them to the main body.

It would be well to shift your place every day, if it can be done without disadvantage in respect to your principal objects.

General Anderson's troops will soon be at the Hanover Junction—in a day or two, that is to say. Let him know your position on his arrival.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

I send a letter to General Anderson, which you will oblige me by having forwarded to him beyond Hanover Junction, if it can safely be done; not otherwise.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 25, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

You will excuse me, I trust, for again calling your attention to the necessity for an early concentration of our troops. The desire for this is universal with our officers. While I feel sure that the great mass of officers and men will do their duty fully, yet it cannot but have a dispiriting effect upon all to believe that they will have to fight the combined forces of McClellan, Banks, Burnside, and, maybe, Sherman. And the question often arises, Why run any risk in this contest for national existence when we could make a sure defense? Why permit ourselves to be beaten in detail when we might throw our heavy masses with resistless force upon the enemy? Burnside can slip away from North Carolina and Holmes be none the wiser; so Sherman can slip off from Port Royal, leaving small garrisons under protection of the gunboats. McDowell is doubtless with McClellan, and the better part of Banks' column, his Western troops, have formed a junction also. I do not think that I am an alarmist, and I trust in God that I may be able to discharge my duty faithfully, but the scattering of our forces makes me fear the worst. Being mixed up with our troops, I know more of their temper and disposition and tone of thought than those do whose position has placed them above such association. This fact must be my excuse for intruding the same opinions upon you so often. God knows my only thoughts are for the good of the South, in whose defense I will most likely shed my heart's blood.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Junction, May 25, 1862.

Major-General BRANCH:

GENERAL: I arrived here at 7 o'clock. Head of my column is encamped within 2½ miles, and the extreme rear back, I suppose, 4½ miles farther. Expect to send them down to-morrow, and will try and come to the Court-House with the first of them and have your advice.

Yours, truly,

J. R. ANDERSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

I marched all night and day, and am pretty tired, and of course my men are more so, and for that reason I want to move them by rail.

If you move your camp from the Court-House please inform me before I start my troops.

HEADQUARTERS,
Drewry's Bluff, Va., May 25, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

SIR: In your communication to Major-General Huger under date of 14th of May, ordering that General Mahone's brigade shall be sent forward to the support of Drewry's Bluff, you direct that I shall as-

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sume the command of the post, and that I shall superintend the engineering operations upon the obstructions and defensive works at that post, the location of guns, and the casemating of batteries, &c.

In the mean while Captain Lee, of the Navy, has been sent down to relieve Captain Farrand, with certain instructions from the Secretary of the Navy.

It is important to harmonize the operations of the Navy and Army I well understand, and so far as in my power this shall be done where no sacrifice to the service is to be the cost, but I cannot be responsible in any copartnership authority.

There has been no difficulty between the two arms of the service, but interferences have occurred in the prosecution of the works to the prejudice of the common object.

I have therefore to inquire to what extent it is intended that I shall be relieved of the command and responsibility, as prescribed in your letter to General Huger, by the chief naval officer at the post.

If I am to be responsible for the manner and energy of the works at this post I would thank you to make this understood with the Navy Department, as also the official relation of the Navy with my command, and that the engineers be directed to report to me and made subject to my directions.

In your letter you state that an engineer officer will be assigned to my command, but none has been so assigned.

I am sure you will appreciate and understand the motive which prompts me to address you this paper. I desire simply to exercise authority where I am held to account.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,

WILLIAM MAHONE,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Referred to General Lee. Since this letter was written General Mahone has telegraphed to me General Huger's arrival had relieved him from all further responsibility, but the difficulties will still exist.

The letter which he speaks of as written by me to General Huger was a telegraph, prepared with the sanction of the President, ordering General Mahone to Drewry's Bluff, putting him in command of the post and in charge of all the engineering work.

This left the batteries to the Navy when completed, and rendered all conflict of authority improbable.

Things seem to have gone back to their former conditions, and it is impossible to pin the responsibility upon any one.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
May 25, 1862—9 p. m.

Major MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that from Mechanicsville, from whence I last wrote to-day, I proceeded to Meadow Bridges and made an examination of the hill across Brooke Run, proceeding to it by the Brooke turnpike and returning by the Meadow Bridges.

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All the bridges are still in our hands, the enemy being less than half a mile in front of them, the farthest being defended by six companies of sharpshooters stationed in the woods, supported by a regiment on this side of Brooke Run in an admirable position for that purpose.

The Meadow road and railroad run here parallel and very close to each other.

I directed two mountain howitzers to be placed so as to enfilade each road, while they are themselves concealed and in proximity to the bridges.

One regiment is stationed on the commanding hills to the left, spoken of this morning. I had intended sending two mountain howitzers to that position also, as the descent is precipitous and the range not long, to defend the canal bridge near that point, and I have ordered up my two 32-pounder guns on traveling carriages, which are excellent guns, furnished with shells, 15 and 20 second fuses, by which the other side of the enemy will be reached, and I think these important communications may be considered safe, except against a very powerful attack of the enemy.

I have directed rifle pits to be constructed midway between the heights and bridges, both at Mechanicsville and Meadow Bridges and on the right and left of the roads, to be used by our sharpshooters when necessary or desirable. I have further to report from personal examination that there are no cavalry pickets to protect the left flank of this position against surprise. General Stuart requested me to have it protected by Colonel Lee, but I could not find that officer. It should be done at once, as the best ford on the river is at Dr. Powell's, 2 miles beyond the regiment, which is stationed on the hill between Brooke Run and the river.

I am, sir, very repectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 26, 1862.

Brigadier-General ARMISTEAD,
Petersburg:

We are informed that if the enemy's pickets are kept off as far down as the Blackwater, on the Norfolk and Petersburg road, and the cars run, we can obtain large quantities of supplies. Can you afford the necessary protection? This is certainly so, and the Commissary General's agent, Everett Todd, will see you this evening.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 26, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Yours of yesterday was received this morning. My note to you was handed to General Griffith, who had borne a communication from General Featherston, and who, I supposed, would deliver my note to you. It was not sent by me to General McLaws, nor was it intended to be formally or officially presented. At the time it was written I had heard of objections to the restoration of the Seventeenth Regi-

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ment, and the Nineteenth was supposed to be one which especially required to be in a brigade of Mississippians for reasons more likely to be communicated to me than yourself. I gave to General Lee, at a subsequent time, a list having the numbers, as stated by you, of the regiments which now compose Griffith's brigade. The only change which would be required in its components now would be the transfer of the Mississippi battalion in exchange for that of Louisiana; and the only alteration I would desire in your proposed organization of the Second Brigade would be the addition of the Sixteenth Regiment to it when it can be drawn from the brigade in which it is now serving (viz, Trimble's, of Ewell's division). This would combine the ten infantry regiments of Mississippi in two brigades, and I am confident they would be more effective in battle for being thus associated.

You will remember that the proposition made by me last fall was similar to this. Then the First Brigade, to be of five regiments, was designated for Whiting, and was followed by his offensive rejection of a Mississippi brigade in an insubordinate letter, which was withdrawn by him for modification, but of which I have heard nothing further.

The addition of the troops under Brigadiers Anderson and Branch seemed to require another major-general, and upon the recommendations before me Brigadier-General Hill was selected.

Brigadier-General Jones was left by the Senate in a position which would render it improper for one to supersede him as a division commander, unless I should have cause to withdraw his nomination (still pending), and thus decide the question as to whether he should be a major-general. Counting the two, Jones and Hill, you have seven division commanders, with four brigades to the division. This would cover your command very nearly.

I have sought some satisfactory solution for the case of Ewell to be chief of staff with the rank of brigadier-general, and can find none which you could ask me to adopt.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Your communication of the 25th instant, reporting your arrival at Drewry's Bluff, has been received. I presume you will receive from General Johnston definite instruction. In the mean time I can state that I understood his object was to afford greater protection to the batteries on the river, to watch and oppose the advance of the enemy from City Point by the south bank of the river, and to have your forces in readiness to cross to this side of the river in case of a general engagement, which seems to be immediate [imminent].

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE APPOMATTOX,
Drewry's Farm, May 26, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I inclose herewith copies of letters sent by the War De-

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partment to General Mahone; also copies sent by the Secretary of the Navy to Capt. S. S. Lee.

I consider these letters are conflicting. I ask that these conflicting instructions be reconciled or be withdrawn altogether.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosures.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, May 14, 1862.

Major-General HUGER, *Petersburg:*

GENERAL: Presuming from your telegraph to Captain Rives this evening that you have not received General Lee's telegram ordering you to send General Mahone's brigade to Drewry's Bluff, I send Captain Blackford, of the Engineer Corps, to conduct the brigade to its destination.

You will send it as soon as practicable, and direct General Mahone to assume command of the post. He will find Captain Farrand, of the Navy, in charge of the battery and the obstructions.

The President wishes General Mahone to superintend the engineering operations and to cover the battery with his brigade. He will have an engineer officer assigned to his command, and will cause the obstructions to be completed as rapidly as possible by the deposit of loose stone; he will have the guns mounted and the batteries casemated.

You will send on in advance of the brigade four companies of light troops, who will report to the senior army officer present, and be employed in covering the battery and as sharpshooters on the bluff.

These are the troops of which General Lee spoke to you, and which we hoped would be in position last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, May 15, 1862.

General MAHONE:

GENERAL: Orders were issued on yesterday for your command to move to the south side of James River, in the vicinity of Drewry's Bluff.

It is desired that you at once take charge of the river defenses at that point, and make such use of your troops and resources as may be best calculated to prevent the ascent of the river by the gunboats of the enemy.

The work of obstructing the river should be prosecuted with ceaseless vigor, and the batteries pushed forward to completion with all possible dispatch.

Commander Farrand, of the Navy, has the river obstructions under his immediate command, and will man and fight certain guns, as far as the naval force will permit.

Capt. T. J. Page, of the Navy, is engaged upon the obstructions, &c., at Warwick Bar.

It will be necessary to harmonize these several operations, and to give vigor and energy to the whole.

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You will draw such working parties from your brigade as may be necessary for the uninterrupted prosecution of the works; and should additional force for manning the heavy guns be required, it is suggested that the company "United Artillery," under Captain Kevill, be devoted to this purpose.

I am, very respectfully, &c., your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, May 15, 1862.

Captain LEE, C. S. N.:

SIR: Proceed to Drewry's Bluff and take command of the naval defenses of the James River, relieving Commander Farrand, who will remain there second in command.

General Mahone has been assigned to the chief command, but the naval force is expected to fight all the batteries, complete the obstructions, and mount additional guns where you may deem them necessary.

All the officers are ordered to report to you.

Consult freely with General Mahone, and defend the river to the last extremity.

Apply to me promptly for all and any aid I can afford you.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 17, 1862.

Capt. S. SMITH LEE,
Comdg. Naval Forces, Drewry's Bluff, near Richmond:

CAPTAIN: I am directed by General Lee to inclose to you the within copy of a letter of instructions to General Mahone, commanding forces at Drewry's Bluff.

The general desires you to be informed that there will be no interference with the naval forces under your command by the land forces serving in conjunction with you. He hopes that the two services will harmonize perfectly in the duties that have been assigned them.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel, Military Secretary.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: Brigadier-General Pettigrew, commanding Major-General Smith's advance, 1½ miles this side of the Nine-mile road, on that to Williamsburg, has been ordered to hold his position. Should he be attacked in force he will be supported, so that an action may be brought on. Please be ready for such an emergency to support General Smith's right.

Yours, truly and respectfully,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Harrison's, May 26, 1862.

Major-General HILL:

DEAR GENERAL: I have just received your note of to-day. I fear that the enemy will come no nearer than Pettigrew's position. It is scarcely worth while to prepare for his reception nearer. That position is now nearer than I intended it should be. It is well to have the ground immediately in your front prepared, but I think that if we fight near this place it must be by going forward a little way to attack. I fear a line of countervallation is McClellan's scheme.

Your regiments on the Central and Charles City roads should have their distance from you regulated by Pettigrew's. If he is attacked it will probably be necessary for you to move forward.

Yours, truly,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Fairfield, May 26, 1862.

Major MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In answer to Major-General Smith's communication of this afternoon I have to say that by the words used by me,

Our troops were withdrawn in obedience to General Smith's orders,

I meant that General Smith had given orders that troops should fall back in certain cases, and that the case provided for by General Smith having occurred, our troops were withdrawn accordingly.

For instance General Smith directed that Mechanicsville—

Should not be given up except in case of a real attack in force,

Colonel Robertson reported that he was attacked by the enemy advancing in force, with cavalry, artillery, and infantry, and that he was then engaged, and asked for re-enforcements. I directed him to withdraw his force, in accordance with General Smith's orders, a copy of which orders I had sent in full to Colonel Robertson, in lieu of any and all instructions on this subject from myself.

Had it been left to me I should have re-enforced Colonel Robertson, but having been refused permission to cross over any more of my troops than two regiments, and having been told to obey orders, I was compelled to refuse re-enforcements, and to inform Colonel Robertson that he must fall back to Meadow Bridges.

The order thus given by me to Colonel Robertson was not my order, but the order of my superior in rank. I said that it was the order of General Smith, as I received it from him, as above explained.

I hope I have made myself sufficiently clear to be understood; it is my earnest desire to do so.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

HEADQUARTERS,
Junction, May 26, 1862.

General L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: General J. R. Anderson, commanding, directs me to say that his force will be transported down the Richmond, Fredericksburg

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and Potomac Railroad as far as Kilbey's Mill; will there leave the railroad and proceed to Halfsink. General Anderson will go to the same point, and will open communication with you as soon as possible.

Your letter of May 26 is received.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

WM. NORWOOD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 117. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Richmond, May* 26, 1862.

* * * * * * *

Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws is assigned to the command of the troops heretofore commanded by Major-General Magruder, the latter having been relieved by Special Orders, No. 118, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, May 23, 1862.

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 26, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your letter of this date, in which you require me to modify my order relieving Major-General Magruder from duty in this army.

Your letter is calculated, I think, to give the impression that I have done Major-General Magruder injustice. Let me remind you that my order in question was given in obedience to yours assigning General Magruder to the command of a department, and directing him to report for instructions. Your order was positive and unconditional. I had no option, but was bound to obey it. If injustice has been done it was not by me. If an improper order has been given it is not mine. Mine, therefore, permit me to suggest, is not the one to be recalled or modified.

Obedience to the order contained in your letter would place me in a false position in relation to Major-General Magruder and to the Army. I therefore respectfully ask you to recall it.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 120. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., May* 26, 1862.

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XXIV. Maj. Gen. J. B. Magruder is relieved from the operation of paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 118, current series, and will report for duty to General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding Department of Northern Virginia.

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 27, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I received information from Major-General Holmes a day or two since that two-thirds of the army and navy of the enemy had left New Berne, and, in consideration of this movement, directed him to prepare the same proportion of his army to move in this direction or Wilmington, as the future action of Burnside's force would dictate. By a telegram received last night, however, General Holmes reports eleven steamers at Plymouth and two gunboats removing obstructions at the confluence of the Blackwater and Nottoway Rivers, and he has been instructed to regulate the movements of his troops accordingly, and to oppose any advance upon the railroad leading south whenever it may be attempted. Should Burnside appear in James River he will move with corresponding portion of his forces to Petersburg and establish his headquarters at that place.

The First Louisiana Regiment, of General Huger's command, which was at Weldon, has been relieved by a regiment from General Holmes' command, and has arrived at Petersburg. All the troops now at Weldon are from the Department [of] North Carolina, except a battery of artillery, and this will be relieved in a few days, so soon as one of the new batteries in course of preparation at Petersburg is ready for the field service. The line of railroad from Wilmington to and beyond Weldon to Petersburg will then be considered under the charge of General Holmes, and General Huger's army can be devoted to the protection of the batteries on the south side of James River and to resist any advance the enemy may make from City Point, or be thrown across to the north side to take part in the battle impending in your front, as you may see fit to direct.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE APPOMATTOX,
Drewry's Farm, Va., May 27, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: I inclose herewith a copy of letter received this day from General J. G. Walker, and as Petersburg is within my department I received his report and directed him to await further orders. If you have any instructions concerning this brigade I request that you will inform me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 27, 1862.

Respectfully referred for information of General Johnston, as advised on yesterday, May 27.

General Holmes has been directed to regulate his movements by those of Burnside's army, and should it be ascertained that its destina-

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tion was Virginia, General Holmes was to move to Petersburg. He has thought it advisable to send Walker's brigade to that city, but the appearance of the enemy at Plymouth may change his plans. If Walker's brigade remains in Petersburg the presence there of General Armistead's command would be no longer necessary. General Johnston will be furnished with such information bearing upon this matter as may be received from General Holmes.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Inclosure.]

PETERSBURG, VA., *May* 27, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding Department of the Appomattox:

GENERAL: I arrived here this morning with orders from General Holmes to assume command at this point. This order was given, I believe, on the supposition that your division had been withdrawn from this vicinity. As I find the case to be different, I have the honor to report my arrival merely, and will await your further instructions. One regiment of my brigade is now here, and the remainder will arrive to-day and to-morrow.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General, C. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS,
May 27, 1862.

General FEATHERSTON:

GENERAL: An attack is to be made at daylight by General Smith on the left of Rodes. You will move with your two pieces and regiments at dawn to the support of General Rodes, sending ahead to apprise him of the movement, that his pickets may not fire upon you.

Rodes is expected to keep his command parallel to that of Smith. I have given him full instructions, and as he is your senior, you will report to him for orders. The whole division will be immediately behind you.

Yours, &c.,
D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

P. S.—I placed last night, according to promise, three companies of Rains' brigade on picket just in front of you.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 27, 1862.

The brigades will be put in motion immediately. The lightest guns of the batteries can alone be taken, and the extra horses may be attached to the caissons, that all may move with rapidity. The camps will be left just as they are. We are moving out for battle and all who can go should do so.

The brigade of General Rains will move by Currie's to the Charles

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City road. The brigade of General Wise will follow that of General Rains, on the same road. The brigade of General Garland will be marched to the position now occupied by General Rodes and will be there held in reserve.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

STONY RUN, *May* 27, 1862.

General BRANCH:

I assume the command of this division. I send you General Johnston's order.

Collect your command near Ashland, and be prepared to move in this direction.

Colonel Hamilton has been directed to vacate the Junction and move toward Ashland. I shall move that way to-morrow with Field's and Gregg's brigades. Communicate with me at once.

Respectfully,

A. P. HILL,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 27, 1862—7.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: I have just received your note of this date.

Please report to Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill, to whose division you now belong, as soon as possible.

Your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 27, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th,* reporting the arrival of the First Louisiana Regiment at Petersburg, &c., and to say that Major-General Holmes has been instructed to take charge of and defend the line of road through Weldon to Petersburg, and that you are desired to send a light battery to Weldon as soon as one of those now in course of preparation at Petersburg is ready for field service, to relieve that of Captain Graham, which can then repair to Petersburg to recruit and refit.

It has been reported by General Holmes this morning that eleven steamers are at Plymouth and two gunboats removing obstructions at the confluence of the Blackwater and Nottoway Rivers. General Johnston has been informed of these facts, and that General Holmes will regulate his movements accordingly, and it is presumed he will instruct you not to remove the brigade left at Petersburg until relieved by troops from the Department of North Carolina.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Not found.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 119. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Richmond, Va., May* 27, 1862.

The troops serving under Brig. Gen. J. R. Anderson and Brig. Gen. L. O'B. Branch will form a division, to the command of which Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill is assigned.

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Harrison's, Va., May 28, 1862—9 a. m.

General LEE:

GENERAL: If McDowell is approaching, of which there can be no doubt, we must fight very soon. Every man we have should be here. Major-General Holmes' troops should therefore be ordered to Richmond forthwith; they may be wanted to-morrow. I have more than once suggested a concentration here of all available forces.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

P. S.—I shall bring up Huger.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 28, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding Department of Appomattox, Va.:

GENERAL: I have just learned that Brig. Gen. J. G. Walker's brigade is at Petersburg. Being in the Department of Appomattox, it is under your orders. There are, then, four brigades under your command for the defense of Drewry's Bluff and Petersburg; at the former place is Stuart's regiment also. I am promised eighty cars and engines to move your troops to-night; they are to be ready in Manchester by 9 o'clock. They shall receive your orders at a point opposite to Drewry's Bluff, when you can arrange the order of transportation of the troops. You will of course select the brigade to guard Drewry's Bluff and Weldon, counting Walker's as one of the brigades liable to your detail.

The President assured me, when General Walker's brigade left Fredericksburg, that it was still in my command; so it is in your command by a double argument.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 28, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I have just received a telegram from General Huger, stating that General Holmes had ordered Walker's brigade back to

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Weldon, and that he would leave Armistead's brigade, Huger's command, at Petersburg. I had received a telegram from General Holmes to the same effect, but have ordered the brigade of General Walker to remain in Petersburg, and have so notified General Huger by telegraph, telling him that this would release General Armistead's brigade.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 28, 1862

Brig. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c., Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, inclosing one from Brigadier-General Walker of same date, reporting the arrival of the advance of his brigade at Petersburg. It was reported by General Holmes a day or two since that two-thirds of the army and navy of the enemy at New Berne had left that place. It was presumed their intention was either to move against Wilmington or to re-enforce McClellan, and General Holmes was directed to regulate his movements so as to meet them in either case. If it was ascertained that their destination was Virginia, General Holmes was to move a proportionate amount of his army to Petersburg, and was to consider his department so extended as to include that place and the entire line of railroad to Wilmington. This will account for the presence in Petersburg of General Walker's brigade. On yesterday the enemy's transports (eleven) and gunboats (two) were reported at Plymouth, and this may change the movements of the troops *en route* from North Carolina. General Johnston, who has been made acquainted with these facts, it is presumed, will give you all the necessary orders in the case.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 28, 1862.

Brigadier-General ARMISTEAD,
Petersburg, Va.:

What is the condition of the obstruction of the Appomattox, and is anything needed to perfect it?

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

PETERSBURG, VA., *May* 28, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

When I last visited obstructions with Captain Pegram, C. S. Navy, we both thought they could be easily removed. They are not in the right place. Give me the authority, with the officers and men now at work on the present obstructions, and I will try to redeem lost time. Let me have Captain Pegram, C. S. Navy.

L. A. ARMISTEAD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

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Memorandum from Secretary of War to Chiefs of Bureaus, May 28, 1862.

Should our army, contrary to all reasonable expectation, be forced to abandon Richmond, the notice of the movement may not be sufficient to enable us to remove our archives. It has been determined, therefore, to place such of them as are not indispensable for daily use on one of the lines of public conveyance, in order that their removal, if rendered necessary, may be effected without difficulty. Wagons will be ready to-night at 9 o'clock to commence the removal, which should be conducted quietly and from the rear of the building to avoid panic or excitement in the city. The provost-marshal will conduct the transshipment, and the adjutant-general will detail an officer to take charge of the archives, who will receive his instructions from the Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 28, 1862.

Brig. Gen. L. A. ARMISTEAD,
Commanding at Petersburg:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of the 26th instant to General Cooper, in which you express the opinion that the obstructions in the Appomattox River should have been placed at the Point of Rocks, instead of above Port Walthall. General Huger wrote on the 21st instant that he was endeavoring to obstruct the river at the Point of Rocks, and would if possible render the barrier effective. This work if incomplete should be continued with the utmost energy, unless it has been decided to be impracticable.

The engineer officer assigned to the charge of the work in obstructing the river is unquestionably under your direction as commanding officer of the district. He was under the immediate control of the Engineer Bureau only until General Huger was assigned to the command of the Department of the Appomattox.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Fairfield Race-Course, May 28, 1862.

GENERAL: I send a copy of a letter just received from General Johnston.* Please consider it confidential for the present.

I have ordered General Jones to prepare to move his troops to the right as soon as relieved by General Smith's troops, and to occupy the places now occupied by General Cobb's command, near Mechanicsville Bridge, by the same number and kind of troops. General Cobb will show him the positions, and when his troops are relieved by those of General Jones you will cause those of General Cobb and the rest of your troops to concentrate toward the right.

I have received no other instructions than General Johnston's note, but after conferring with him will, if more detailed instructions are given, communicate them to you by courier. In the mean time you must be guided in their execution by your own judgment.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

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HEADQUARTERS FIRST [FIELD'S] BRIGADE,
May 28, 1862—1 a. m.

General [BRANCH]:

I am deputed by General Hill, who has laid down, to say to you that you will hold on to your position; that Colonel Hamilton has been ordered to fall back from the Junction, and we will advance from here early in the morning, and we will fight or fall back together, as circumstances may require.

Very respectfully, your servant,

G. F. HARRISON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Brigade.

P. S.—General Hill has just arrived to take command.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 120. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Richmond, Va., May 28, 1862.

The Wise Legion Cavalry, the Hampton Legion Cavalry, the Cobb Legion Cavalry, and the cavalry lately serving in the Aquia District are hereby placed under the command of Brig. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, and the several commanding officers of the above-named bodies of cavalry will report forthwith their whereabouts to Brig. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart.

By command of General Johnston:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18. } HEADQUARTERS,
Brooke's House, May 28, 1862.

The division now commanded by Brigadier-General Whiting and the brigades of Brigadier-General Pettigrew and Brigadier-General Hatton will, until further orders, constitute one division, under command of Brigadier-General Whiting.

Brigadier-Generals Pettigrew and Hatton will at once report for orders accordingly.

By command of Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith:

SAML. W. MELTON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 29, 1862.

Brigadier-General ARMISTEAD,
Petersburg, Va.:

Do what you can to make the obstructions effective, but I think you had better have engineer officers. Our experience here proves that great confusion results from the two services attempting to work together. If, however, you still wish Captain Pegram I will apply for him.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE,
May 29, 1862—5 o'clock.

[General HILL:]

Upon deploying a line of skirmishers in the woods in front they immediately became engaged with the enemy's skirmishers and sharp firing is now going on. Result not yet reported; our men holding their own.

My men are under arms in the original position you found them yesterday. I think I distinguished the rumbling of approaching artillery. I'll send again further particulars.

I am, general, very respectfully,

S. GARLAND, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE,
May 29, 1862—6.30 o'clock.

[General HILL:]

Major Call, commanding the skirmishers, has drawn them in and returned. Casualties on our side: One lieutenant from the Twenty-fourth Virginia and 2 privates Twenty-third North Carolina wounded, one of the latter being left on the field through a misunderstanding of my orders. Supposed casualties of the enemy 15 or 20; since reported more. Condensing the conflicting statements, I gather that two regiments were seen drawn up upon driving in their line of pickets, which held the edge of the woods in our front. Some cavalry were also seen in the road, and Major Call confirms my impression of hearing the wheels of artillery. From this I infer the presence of a brigade on my immediate front in the woods opposite. All now is profoundly quiet. The cavalry vedette reports parties of the enemy creeping up near the railroad. I have the Second Florida, with its left resting on the railroad, and shall preserve communication with it.

Your dispatch just received.

Very respectfully,

S. GARLAND, JR.,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 29, 1862.

Major-General HILL:

DEAR GENERAL: Your dispatch is just received. I suppose that your report mentioned was from General Rodes. You wrote my name.

Tell your advanced brigades to find out the strength of the enemy before them if possible. It may become proper to attack.

Yours, truly,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

I congratulate you upon the prize.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 30, 1862.

Maj. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Petersburg, Va.:

Bring your command here as rapidly as possible and report by letter. Send on in advance to General Johnston. He will instruct you.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 30, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I went as far to-day as your pickets at the bridges on the Chickahominy where the Telegraph road and the old stage road cross that river. Lieutenant-Colonel Walker, commanding at those points, informed me that he had a skirmish last evening at the latter point, called Halfsink, with the enemy's cavalry. This morning he ascertained by his skirmishers that the enemy had disappeared and that nothing had been seen of them to-day. Captain Fox, who represented himself as a scout, and who I found had come into the cavalry pickets on the Telegraph road beyond the Chickahominy, stated that the enemy had retired from Atlee's and was nowhere west of the railroad in that vicinity. Dr. Fontaine, of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry, stated to me that he was last night as high up as Hanover Court-House, and that he saw and heard nothing of them in the region west of the road from Ashland to that point. He also reported that there was no enemy on the stage road from Fredericksburg this side of Gordonsville, [?] 18 miles south of Fredericksburg. It was reported by citizens that there was a force of the enemy marching by the Amelia road, but of that he knows nothing. I think it probable from what I learned to-day that the enemy, being satisfied with temporarily breaking up our railroad communication north, have withdrawn east of these roads, with a view, probably, of concentrating his force nearer Richmond.

I omitted to mention in the statement of Captain Fox that he met a citizen of his acquaintance who had been seeking the restoration of some property, and was referred by the parties to whom he applied to General McClellan, who was stated to be at a point 4 miles from Atlee's, on the road leading from Richmond to Pamunkey. He inferred that the main body of his forces was in that vicinity. You may probably have received more accurate accounts of the position of the enemy from your scouts.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Fairfield Race-Course, Va., May 30, 1862.

Maj. THOMAS G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to draw the attention of the commanding general to the great extent of my line, reaching from New Bridge, on my right, to 1 mile to the left of the Meadow Bridges. The protection of this line was necessarily incumbent upon my troops even so far as beyond Brooke Run, until General A. P. Hill took possession on my left. I have a regiment stationed beyond Brooke Run with which the rest of my command find some difficulty in communicating. I therefore desire to have that regiment replaced by one from General Hill's division, which is nearer, and can communicate with it much more readily than I can. I deem it necessary to mention that even after this change, in

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consequence of the extent of my line, it may be broken by a vigorous assault from the enemy.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

P. S.—I do not anticipate this at present, but only wish the commanding general to have it in mind.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE APPOMATTOX,
Petersburg, Va., May 30, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: When I reported to you by telegraph that the obstructions in the Appomattox were worthless, I spoke in reference only to the point at which they were placed, being too high up to guard the most important point in this vicinity, viz, Port Walthall, which is but 3 miles from the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad. Upon a personal examination of the work, which I made on yesterday, I am of the opinion that, so far as the ascent of the enemy's gunboats to Petersburg is concerned, the barrier erected by Captain Dimmock accomplishes that end. So far as I could judge, the work has been faithfully performed. In asking another engineer officer, I was under the impression that Captain Dimmock was acting independently of the department commander here, and I was so informed by Brigadier-General Armistead, whom I relieved. I merely desired an engineer who was subject to my control.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CAMP AT CHILDREY'S, ON VARINA ROAD,
May 30, 1862.

Major-General HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Between 2 and 3 o'clock p. m. I visited Varina (Aiken's), on James River. At about that time firing was distinctly heard on our left, which we judged to be either at or near Ashland or Bottom's Bridge. This had not continued many minutes before two gunboats of the enemy were discovered coming slowly up the river with the tide, as if feeling their way in the channel and observing the shores. When first seen by me they had come nearly up to Deep Bottom, but the pickets had, from lower positions, seen them start from about Curl's Neck. With Colonel Duke and Major Gregory I paused to see whether they were towing any transports, and Captains Magruder and Clement hastened to watch any attempt at landing.

I immediately ordered the Forty-sixth, Twenty-sixth, and Fourth Regiments Virginia Volunteers and Armistead's and French's batteries to unite at the point where the Kingsland intersects with the Varina road, and sent notice of the movement to Colonel Stuart, at Chaffin's Bluff. Before this was done the cavalry pickets reported that the gunboats had returned down the river.

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Now, at 8 o'clock p. m., Captain Magruder, of the cavalry, reports that they came up as high as Varina, and so near to the wharf that the enemy invited Mr. Aiken to go on board, assuring him that neither he nor his property should be injured. Mr. Aiken did not go on board, but conversed with them from the shore. They asked him the distance to Dutch Gap; then the distance to the batteries at Drewry's Bluff; how many batteries we had between there and Richmond; where our pickets were placed; whether there had been any fighting to-day or not; whether we intended to fight, &c. After desultory questions and replies they turned down the river. They did not go far before one of the boats stopped; a skiff, with but one man in it, went off to her and returned with two men in it; they were negroes. Near there is a rendezvous of free negroes, who live by fishing and who are good river pilots. Doubtless the gunboat had taken in one of them as a pilot and put him off in this skiff. It is supposed by me that these boats came up to mark the channel and to note the landings. It is said that a large fleet of transports is below. The boats were sounding all the way. Unless otherwise ordered I shall picket the river side at the landings as low down as safe and all the roads with cavalry, and shall concentrate the infantry and artillery at close supporting distances at or near the crossing of the Kingsland and Varina roads, placing our baggage and provisions in the rear on the Osborne turnpike.

Mr. Aiken states that there is an immense amount of corn at Mr. Allen's and other places, which may be gotten off. It can't be got by Government wagons in the day-time, but can be gotten by plantation wagons at night. It is in reach of the enemy's shells. If the quartermaster's department will furnish the wagons to haul it away from the depots of the plantation wagons a large quantity may be saved. I have ordered about 30 head of fat cattle to be driven within our lines.

I shall order these free negroes to be arrested and put on the works as prisoners and the fishing skiffs to be destroyed—those of low white men as well as those of the negroes. Some of the whites are as dangerous as the negroes.

In the act of posting my regiments this evening we were arrested by a drenching rain and thunder storm, which still continue. In the morning I shall give the necessary orders for the posts. Some infantry pickets and more cavalry pickets will be stationed on the New Market road, and I will reach as far as possible with the cavalry in my command down the river and on the Central and Charles City roads.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

SATURDAY MORNING, *May* 31—6.45 a. m.

GENERAL: I omitted to state that Captain Magruder reported also that the sharpshooters on the Chesterfield or south side annoyed the gunboats yesterday as they returned.

I think the enemy will land and approach by land to flank the batteries very soon, and say to you frankly that the troops under me are too green to be relied on and too few to be adequate for the defense. But I will fight against all odds and mean to be cut to pieces or to repulse the enemy. The rain has continued all night and prevented sending a courier before this morning.

Yours, truly,

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 30, 1862—9.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH:

GENERAL: If nothing prevents we will fall upon the enemy in front of Major-General Hill (who occupies the position on the Williamsburg road from which your troops moved to the neighborhood of Meadow Bridge) early in the morning—as early as practicable. The Chickahominy will be high, passable only by the bridges—a great advantage to us.

Please be ready to move by the [Gaines?] road, coming as early as possible to the point at which the road to New Bridge turns off. Should there be cause of haste, General McLaws, on your approach, will be ordered to leave his ground for you, that he may re-enforce General Longstreet.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

Please acknowledge.

J. E. J.

A copy of this has been sent to General Whiting, who is directed to act upon the order in your absence.

J. E. J.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 21.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., May 30, 1862.

Brigadier-General Ripley, upon his arrival in this city, will report for duty with his brigade to General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding Department of Northern Virginia.

The regiments, as they arrive, will take the direction of Fairfield Race-Course, unless otherwise ordered by General Johnston.

The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation to the encampment.

By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
Near Richmond, Va., May 31, 1862—3 a. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by Major-General Huger to write to you and say that a brigade will start for the Charles City road as soon as possible, and that when they are in motion he will notify you, and would be glad if you would send a guide to conduct them.

Brig. Gen. L. A. Armistead will report to General Rodes. I fear delay may occur owing to the state of the roads.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOMAS PINCKNEY,
Aide-de-Camp.

MAY 31, 1862—4.45 a. m.

General G. J. RAINS:

GENERAL: Captain White will report to you this morning as a guide to take your men down the railroad to position assigned.

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We are ordered to attack the enemy this morning. Have the ammunition in the cartridge boxes examined, and if wet have it supplied from ordnance wagons. The guns and everything should be well looked to, as you have some very poor officers in command.

Have every man supplied with a strip of white cloth. This is to be worn on the cap in battle, but do not let even your colonels know where it is to be worn until a few moments before you start.

Major Sadler reports that your commissary has not drawn his meat rations. Your men, I fear, will have to go into battle hungry. Your colonels have several times complained to me of negligence on the part of your commissary.

We cannot move on the enemy until your brigade is in position. I hope that it will not delay us.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

MAY 31, 1862—6.30 a. m.

GENERAL: I am ordered to attack the enemy this morning. You will be relieved by General Armistead. Have your men ready to start at a moment's notice. Examine their cartridge boxes, and if their ammunition be damaged have it supplied from the ordnance wagons.

Send Nelson to General Rains' camp, now on the Williamsburg road and near the place occupied by Pettigrew's brigade, near the toll-gate and between the railroad and the Williamsburg road. Carter's battery will move with you. I think that you had better move over to the Williamsburg road by the road running by French's. I presume that you will scout the country on Garland's right, between that and the Charles City road. Halt the head of your column at the edge of the woods near the field running by Currie's. As soon as General Armistead reaches the Charles City road I have directed Lieutenant West to ride on and set your brigade in motion to be out of the way before General Armistead arrives.

Have your ordnance wagons parked at some convenient distance in rear. Have a strip of cloth (white) prepared as a battle badge for each man. This is to be worn around the cap in action; but I do not want even your colonels to know its position until the action is about to begin.

Specific battle instructions will be given hereafter.

Leave an officer to point out to General Armistead the position of your infantry and artillery, and get your brigade out of his way when notified by Lieutenant West.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *May* 31, 1862.

Major-General WHITING:

GENERAL: General Johnston directs me to say, in answer to yours of this date, that Longstreet will precede you. What he said about McLaws was merely in case of emergency. He has given no orders to Magruder.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
May 31, 1862.

Major-General McLAWS:

GENERAL: General Magruder instructs me to say that General Toombs' brigade has been ordered to occupy General Cobb's position at Mechanicsville Bridge. You will place General Cobb's brigade in such position as his left may rest where his right now rests. The rest of your command you will dispose of in such a manner as will more efficiently strengthen your position.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
May 31, 1862.

Brigadier-General JONES:

GENERAL: I am instructed by General Magruder to direct you to move General Toombs' brigade to the right, and occupy the position at Mechanicsville Bridge now occupied by General Cobb's brigade, who has been ordered farther to the right. Colonel Anderson's brigade will occupy the position at present occupied by General Toombs.

Very respectfully, &c.,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *May* 31, 1862.

Major-General HOLMES, through General R. E. LEE:

My cavalry know nothing of the country. Please have sent to me Captain Marks' company Prince George Cavalry, attached to the Third Virginia Cavalry; they know the country thoroughly.

J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 1, 1862.

Brigadier-General WALKER,
Petersburg, Va.:

If you have not left Petersburg proceed at once with your entire force to Drewry's Bluff. Reply immediately and state the number of your troops.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 1, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch to General Walker is received. He went to Richmond this morning with his brigade. I have left me here not more than 400

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well men, and they are very indifferently armed. I arrived here but a few hours ago.

R. RANSOM, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Department of Appomattox.

PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 1, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Two gunboats and one transport passed our pickets at Giles' Landing, on James River, at 12 m., on their way up the river. No particulars.

Your obedient servant,

J. F. MILLIGAN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 1, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH:

The Thirtieth Virginia left here at 10 p. m. and the Forty-eighth Georgia at 11. A train has also [been] ordered, as I understand, to take up the Arkansas regiment of Colonel Manning at Port Walthall Junction. These troops could be stopped in Richmond and ordered back to Halfway Station; thence take the line of march for Drewry's Bluff.

R. RANSOM, JR.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 1, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I informed General Lee yesterday that Captain Lee, in command of naval forces at Drewry's Bluff, reported to me that the supporting force to his battery had been withdrawn, with the exception of about 300 troops, and that a land force was necessary to protect his handful of seamen who man the batteries.

Inclosed herewith I hand you Captain Lee's dispatch of this evening, announcing the ascent of the river by iron vessels of the enemy and the landing of troops from his transports 7 miles below the battery. Unless troops are immediately sent down the batteries may be carried by a small land force, and I suggest that a sufficient force be sent at once. The steamers at Rocketts will transport them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

[Inclosure.]

DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA., *June* 1, 1862.

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond, Va.:

Reported four transports landing troops at Howlett's Landing, 7 miles below, and two gunboats coming up, firing occasionally to clear the

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banks. We have only a small force to prevent them from outflanking us. I do not know who commands the forces outside.

S. S. LEE,
Captain, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., June 1, 1862.

Col. E. F. KEEN,
Comdg. Fifty-seventh Regiment Virginia Vols., Drewry's Bluff:

COLONEL: Your telegram of yesterday has been received. General Lee directs me to say to you that the command of the troops at Drewry's Bluff having devolved upon you, you will take all the necessary steps for protecting the defenses on the river. You will guard carefully all the approaches toward the batteries from the direction of City Point, sending forward your pickets on all the roads leading in that direction, with instructions to watch carefully the movements of the enemy and report any appearance of an advance. You will oppose to the last extremity any attempt upon your position. You will report promptly any movement of the enemy. There is a brigade of General Holmes' command at Petersburg. You will endeavor to keep a system of communication with this force, as there is a material dependence upon yours and this force.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

BEAVER DAM, *June* 1, 1862.

General S. COOPER:

I was at Jerrold's [?] Mill on yesterday when my advanced party of 6 men came in contact with and drove back 5 of the enemy's cavalry. The Federals are in force at Stuart's Mill, 2 miles beyond Jerrold's. No indication of any advance toward Richmond. Some part of McDowell's force has certainly been sent back to Washington or the valley, and if my information can be relied on, he is waiting further intelligence of Jackson's movements to determine his course.

Men and horses in my command have been worked hard, and I have come this side of the river to recruit for a day or two. I am acting under orders from Major-General Hill, and will beg the favor of you to have this telegram communicated to him.

B. B. DOUGLAS.

(Copies sent to Generals R. E. Lee and A. P. Hill June 2, 1862.)

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT DIVISION,
June 1, 1862.

Brig. Gen. L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: Send two regiments, under an experienced officer, down the Brooke turnpike to Mechanicsville. Let the men take their blankets, and if they have not cooked provisions to last until to-morrow after

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breakfast let the wagons follow after them. The regiments must start at once. Let the colonel commanding come by here for instructions.

Very respectfully,

A. P. HILL,
Major-General.

Acknowledge the receipt of this.

WELDON, *May* 30, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

I will be in Petersburg this evening. Please telegraph me there your orders.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *May* 30, 1862.

General T. H. HOLMES:

Your dispatch of to-day to General Lee received. On your arrival at Petersburg this evening, repair to this city and report.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 1, 1862.

Major-General HILL:

GENERAL: General Longstreet desires me to say that you should make your movement at once or it will have to be postponed. The greatest promptness is required.

I am, general, very respectfully,

G. MOXLEY SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 1, 1862.

Major-General HILL, *Commanding:*

MY DEAR GENERAL: Yours of this morning is received. I have but one company of cavalry, and will send it to you. As soon as General Stuart comes I will ask him to send you another.

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 1, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

SIR: The unfortunate casualty which has deprived the army in front of Richmond of its immediate commander, General Johnston, renders it necessary to interfere temporarily with the duties to which you were assigned in connection with the general service, but only so far as to make you available for command in the field of a particular army. You

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will assume command of the armies in Eastern Virginia and in North Carolina, and give such orders as may be needful and proper.

Very respectfully,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 22.

HEADQUARTERS, *Richmond, Va., June* 1, 1862.

I. In pursuance of the orders of the President, General R. E. Lee assumes command of the armies of Eastern Virginia and North Carolina.

The unfortunate casualty that has deprived the army in front of Richmond of the valuable services of its able general is not more deeply deplored by any member of his command than by its present commander. He hopes his absence will be but temporary, and while he will endeavor to the best of his ability to perform his duties, he feels he will be totally inadequate to the task unless he shall receive the cordial support of every officer and man.

The presence of the enemy in front of the capital, the great interests involved, and the existence of all that is dear to us appeal in terms too strong to be unheard, and he feels assured that every man has resolved to maintain the ancient fame of the Army of Northern Virginia and the reputation of its general and to conquer or die in the approaching contest.

II. Commanders of divisions and brigades will take every precaution and use every means in their power to have their commands in readiness at all times for immediate action. They will be careful to preserve their men as much as possible, that they may be fresh when called upon for active service. All surplus baggage, broken-down wagons, horses, and mules, and everything that may embarrass the prompt and speedy movement of the army will be turned into depot. Only sufficient transportation will be retained for carrying the necessary cooking utensils and such tents or tent-flies as are indispensable to the comfort and protection of the troops.

By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 2, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Yours of this date just received. I have directed the Secretary of War to appoint as brigadier-generals Cols. J. J. Archer, J. L. Kemper, and A. R. Wright.

The uncertainty of the fate of Colonel Pettigrew, which I hope will be resolved favorably, renders me unwilling to make an appointment to his brigade; therefore Col. William D. Pender (being an officer of the C. S. Army) is assigned to temporary rank as a brigadier-general. You can anticipate the receipt of orders by placing them on duty as above.

The disease from which I have been suffering for several days, together with the heat of yesterday, leaves me so unwell to-day that I have delayed to go out until an important contingency may require.

Please keep me advised as frequently as your engagements will permit of what is passing before and around you.

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Colonel Kemper is, I am informed, now in command of the brigade recently commanded by General A. P. Hill. Colonel Archer has served with the Tennesseeans, and may know more of them than either of the other officers named.

Colonel Wright is a Georgian, and, as my memory serves me, Hampton's brigade was partly composed of Georgians. But you will know best how to dispose of these officers.

I give you the material to be used at your discretion.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS HUGER'S DIVISION,
June 2, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I beg to call your attention to the fact that all the troops I commanded have been detached, I presume from the necessity of the service; and finding myself on the field last evening without any command at all, I, with the permission of General Longstreet, returned to these headquarters.

The First Brigade of my division (Colston's) was detached to reenforce General Magruder when the enemy first advanced up the Peninsula. The three brigades I brought up with me are at present serving under the orders of Major-General Hill.

I ask that all may be returned to my command. I hope the position I am placed in is merely an accidental one, and will be changed as soon as it can be done.

I must demand the command and position my rank entitles me to. On no other condition will I hold it.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DABB'S HOUSE,
June 3, 1862.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Longstreet for a report of the facts in the case.

By order of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 3, 1862.

The entire division of General Huger was left in advance upon retiring with the forces from the late battle-field.

He was absent yesterday, and not coming to report after being sent for, I ordered General Stuart to take the command of the division during the absence of General Huger.

He has joined his division this morning and taken command.

Respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

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RICHMOND, VA., *June* 2, 1862.

SENIOR OFFICER,
At Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

We have just heard from Petersburg that seven or nine gunboats and six transports, with barges in tow, passed up James River since sunrise. Re-enforcements are on their way to join you.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 126. } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., June* 2, 1862.

* * * * * * *

II. By direction of the President, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, will assume the immediate command of the armies in Eastern Virginia and North Carolina.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 18. } HDQRS. LONGSTREET'S DIVISION, *June* 2, 1862.

The commanding general congratulates the troops of Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill and his own upon their handsome conduct in the various attacks upon the enemy's intrenched positions and camps in the battle of the Seven Pines, on the 31st ultimo, and the defense of the position on the 1st instant. After a severe struggle the enemy was driven from his stronghold and all his artillery and his entire camp captured.

It is a source of deep regret, however, that these gallant soldiers, after thus taking the entire position of the enemy, should have endangered our captured stronghold by so far forgetting themselves as to desert their ranks for plunder. This bad conduct is more the fault of the officers than the soldiers. If officers so obviously fail to do their duty nothing better may be expected of the men.

The Seven Pines will be inscribed on the regimental banners of each regiment of the two divisions, except those few regiments that disgracefully left the battle-field with their colors.

The Seven Pines will also be inscribed upon the standard of the Fifty-third Regiment Virginia Volunteers of General Armistead's brigade, Major-General Huger's division.

By command of Major-General Longstreet:

G. MOXLEY SORREL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, Va., June 3, 1862.

Maj. W. H. STEVENS,
Chief Engineer Army of Northern Virginia:

MAJOR: I desire you to make an examination of the country in the vicinity of the line which our army now occupies, with a view of ascertaining the best position in which we may fight a battle or resist the advance of the enemy. The commanding points on this line I desire

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to be prepared for occupation by our field guns and the whole line strengthened by such artificial defenses as time and opportunity may permit. My object is to make use of every means in our power to strengthen ourselves and to enable us to fight the enemy to the best advantage. It is not intended to construct a continuous line of defense or to erect extensive works. Having selected the line and put the works in progress of construction, I desire you to resume the examination and see what other positions can be taken nearer Richmond in case of necessity. You will please make requisitions upon the commanders of divisions in the vicinity of the works to be constructed for such working parties as may be necessary. You must also make arrangements to collect such tools as may be with the army, and I have to request that you will push forward the work with the utmost diligence.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 60. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Dabb's House, June* 3, 1862.

Surg. D. C. De Leon, in accordance with instructions from the War Department, is announced as medical director of the Army of Northern Virginia.

By command of General Lee:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, *June* 4, 1862.

General J. C. PEMBERTON,
Charleston, S. C.:

The call made on you for troops was the result of pressing necessity. It was hoped that the season would secure you against operations inland, and that you could spare troops without weakening your strength for the defense of Charleston. You can estimate the consequences to the common cause which depend upon success here. Send three regiments, or, if you think it safe to do so, send the largest number named by you.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, Va., June 4, 1862.

Maj. W. H. STEVENS,
Chief Engineer:

MAJOR: I am much gratified to learn by your letter of to-day that you have commenced a line for the occupation of our troops and hope you may be able to obtain a satisfactory one. Strengthen its natural positions by artificial defenses. The plan you propose for doing this is approved, and I hope you will be able to prosecute the work with vigor. I last evening directed Captain Rives to send 200 spades, shovels and picks in proportion, and 50 axes to you. Should Major Barbour have a sufficient quantity of tools to enable you to dispense with these, please have them returned. I also have directed him to

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send you such engineer officers as are available. I inclose you a copy of a general order issued to-day relative to the establishment of a pioneer corps.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

P. S.—I wish you particularly to cause an examination to be made of the nature of the ground along the York River Railroad, to see whether or not some heavier guns might be placed there, as I think the only way the enemy can get his heavy guns up that way will be by the railroad.

[Inclosure.]

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 62. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 4, 1862.

Division commanders will have 300 men from their respective divisions detailed as pioneers, who, under engineer officers, may be employed as working parties, to throw up earthworks, dig rifle pits, and construct lines of abatis. These men will be borne upon their company rolls and paid as extra-duty men, retaining their arms and equipments. Regimental officers in proportion to details from their regiments—at least 1 to every 35 men—will accompany these details, descriptive rolls being furnished with each company detail. Mechanics, bridge-builders, and laborers volunteering for this duty will be preferred. Officers so detailed will report to Maj. W. H. Stevens, Engineer Corps, for duty with their details. Maj. W. H. Stevens, engineer department, will make the necessary requisition on his own or the quartermaster's department for implements and material required.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

LYNCHBURG, *June* 4, 1862.

His Excellency Governor LETCHER:

The James River commenced rising this morning early; has risen 15 feet, and is yet rising rapidly—5 o'clock p. m. Should not this be known at the batteries? May not the gunboats take the advantage to pass over?

The river here is about the width at the obstructions.

C. DIMMOCK,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 4, 1862.

General D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: I have just ordered General Ripley to put all the force on the road that he can.

Very respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 61. HEADQUARTERS, *Dabb's House, June* 4, 1862.

Lieut. Col. R. H. Chilton, assistant adjutant and inspector general, having reported for duty with the command of General R. E. Lee, is announced as chief of the staff of the commanding general.

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 123. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 4, 1862.

The following assignments are made of brigadier-generals:

Brig. Gen. J. L. Kemper is assigned to command of brigade lately commanded by Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill, and will report to Major-General Longstreet for duty; Brig. Gen. W. D. Pender to brigade lately commanded by Brigadier-General Pettigrew, and Brig. Gen. James J. Archer to brigade lately commanded by Brigadier-General Hatton, both in division now commanded by Brig. Gen. W. H. C. Whiting, to whom they will report for duty.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 5, 1862.

Maj. W. H. STEVENS,
Chief Engineer Army of Northern Virginia:

MAJOR: The only way by which the enemy can convey heavy artillery from the Chickahominy is the York River Railroad. It has occurred to me that he is constructing a railroad battery, probably plated with iron, to push along the road and sweep the country. That may be the object of his blind on the railroad. Can you not take a position, probably where General Toombs is stationed, and erect a battery to oppose him? If we can hold him on the railroad he cannot advance by his present front, I think, for I do not see how he can provision his troops. If we could construct a railroad battery, though, plated and protected with a heavy gun, it would probably be preferable to a fixed gun. What do you think of its practicability? Please let me know what progress you are making and the condition of affairs.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 5, 1862.

Col. J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance Department:

COLONEL: Is there a possibility of constructing an iron-plated battery, mounting a heavy gun, on trucks, the whole covered with iron, to move along the York River Railroad? Please see what can be done. See the Navy Department and officers. If a proper one can be got up at once it will be of immense advantage to us. Have you any mortars that we could put at some point on the railroad?

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Near Richmond, Va., June 5, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I wrote to His Excellency the President this morning about reenforcements for General Jackson.* The troops from Georgia you propose sending him I believe form a part of General Lawton's brigade. I wish they were mine, but with the North Carolina battalion, if they can join him, will fill up his ranks. He ought to have more, or these will not materially aid him. His plan is to march to Front Royal and crush Shields. It is his only course, and as he is a good soldier, I expect him to do it.

I telegraphed yesterday to Major Harman, at Staunton, to collect all the troops in that vicinity, raise the community, magnify their numbers, and march down the valley and communicate with Jackson. It will shake Shields and make him pause.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA.,
June 5, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

There is a battery of boat howitzers, commanded by Captain Young, doing nothing at Petersburg. It would be very serviceable here to place upon the hill in rear of Drewry's Bluff.

J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Richmond, Va., June 5, 1862.

General J. G. WALKER,
Commanding Brigade at Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

GENERAL: I am very desirous that you should have your whole brigade on this side of the river, or at least be prepared to join the regiments now here at the shortest notice. It is equally important that the safety of the battery at Drewry's Bluff should be secured. I have written to General Ransom at Petersburg to know his strength and whether he could not cover the works at Drewry from parties landing from the river. He will probably visit Drewry, and I desire you to give him all information, and let me know whether you cannot with propriety bring your regiments that are with you to this side. Is the bridge of boats serviceable?

Your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Richmond, Va., June 5, 1862.

Capt. GEORGE MINOR,
Chief of Ordnance and Hydrography:

The Armstrong gun, if mounted on a field carriage, with its supply

* Letter not found.

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of projectiles, will be of immense importance to us. Can we not have it in the morning? The smaller guns (Parrott) I think we have enough of at present. I am very anxious to have a railroad battery. I wrote to Colonel Gorgas on the subject this morning and asked him to get you and Brooke to aid me. Till something better could be accomplished I proposed a Dahlgren or columbiad, on a ship's carriage, on a railroad flat, with one of your navy iron aprons adjusted to it to protect gun and men. If I could get it in position by daylight to-morrow I could astonish our neighbors. The enemy cannot get up his heavy guns except by railroad. We must block his progress.

Very respectfully and truly,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, June 5, 1862.

Major-General MAGRUDER:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this evening,* and to express his gratification at the handsome conduct of our troops during the day. He only regrets that the working parties of the enemy were not driven off this morning, as this would have rendered our advantages greater. His object in directing the withdrawal of the troops and the establishment of a picket only at Mr. James Garnett's was to save the men the unnecessary exposure and fatigue which they would incur if kept constantly drawn up in line of battle. He thought the picket would give you such timely notice of the movements of the enemy as to enable you to make the necessary disposition to resist and repulse him should he attempt to occupy the position. At this distance he cannot judge of the effect of the several combinations of the enemy upon the positions we now hold to which you allude, nor does he intend to give definite instructions in the case. He is unwilling, however, to recede from a position when only threatened, and thinks our artillery could as effectually damage the enemy as his would injure us. Mr. James Garnett's place would be so important to him that it is highly desirable to prevent his possession of it, if we can do so without unnecessary or unwarrantable sacrifice, and he wishes you under these circumstances to resist him should he attempt to gain the position. As you are on the ground he leaves the matter to your judgment and discretion, but suggests that the men be allowed to rest to-night if possible, and that the necessary dispositions be made early in the morning, should you determine to contest the occupancy of the place.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 63. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 5, 1862.

I. To prevent straggling a provost guard will be established within each division, to consist of 1 lieutenant, 1 non-commissioned officer, and

* Not found.

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10 privates from each regiment, to be selected from those most reliable and efficient, and to remain upon this duty unless relieved from inefficiency or other causes.

These guards, under such instructions as division commanders may give, will be aided by a cavalry company, which Brig. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart will send in daily to Richmond to pick up all parties absent without authority. Assistance, if required, will also be given by General Winder, provost-marshal of Richmond, to whom officers in charge of such guards will report whenever visiting the city in discharge of duty.

II. Whisky rations may be issued on the authority of division commanders when deemed essential to the health of the men from the inclemency of the weather or exposure in the swamps.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 6, 1862.

General JAMES LONGSTREET:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have just received your note of this evening. General Jones' division has been moved to the left to rejoin General Magruder's command. Smith's division, General Whiting, occupies the ground between the Nine-mile road and the York River Railroad. There is no gap in the line or ought not to be. I found divisions and even brigades were becoming disintegrated to the left. You have a good neighbor, and I hope you will get along harmoniously.

I have been out all day on the left. Just in. All quiet, but the enemy working like beavers, making bridges and causeways. I saw no extension to his right. All the bridges, &c., were from New Bridge down. He seems to be working for the plateau this side New Bridge, from the bridge itself, which he has renewed on one side, and his *tête-de-pont* on the other. Our people seem to think he will advance to-morrow morning. If so, I directed he should be resisted, and act upon circumstances. Be prepared on your side, and if you get word sweep around on your right.

Very truly,

R. E. LEE.

[Indorsement.]

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I send you a note just received from General Lee. Be ready in the morning, bright and early, if you hear anything. That Mr. Allen would be of service to us in case we have to move.

Very respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 6, 1862.

Maj. Gen. A. P. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Lee directs that you send a regiment from Brig. Gen. Joseph R. Anderson's brigade to relieve the Sixteenth Georgia

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Regiment, Colonel Bryan, which [is] posted on the right of General Anderson's brigade. Upon being relieved the Sixteenth Georgia will report for duty to Brigadier-General Cobb.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING OF THE ARMY,
June 6, 1862.

Brigadier-General WHITING,
Commanding Division, &c.:

SIR: I am directed by Major-General Magruder to say that he will order one of Jones' brigades to relieve one of the brigades of your division, now in the rear of Mrs. Price's; that he will withdraw also the other brigade of Jones' division and place it in position extending from Mrs. Price's to Mr. James Garnett's, thus leaving your division to occupy and defend the ground from the Nine-mile road to the railroad. As your division is a large one and Jones' is a weak one, he can do nothing toward defending the ground on the right of the Nine-mile road. He considers it essential, therefore, that one of your brigades be kept in front on that ground, and that your reserves should be in easy supporting distance of the troops in the vicinity of the Old Tavern. He hopes this arrangement will be satisfactory to you.

In reference to the artillery of your division, Major-General Magruder directs me to say that he does not recollect to have given any order upon any occasion whatever. He also instructs me to say that he considers you in the independent command of your division, except when operations are going on jointly between your own and his divisions, when by law the ranking officer commands, which he does not desire to do except in cases of necessity.

In order to effect the transportation of your troops and those of General Jones to-day, he informs you that General Jones will move his division from the right by the rear to your left, and will inform the next commanding officer of brigade in your division on his left when this movement will take place. He suggests that you will direct this movement of your line of battle by the right flank to the railroad and leave vacant the ground now occupied by your Third Brigade, to be occupied by one of General Jones' brigades.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
June 6, 1862.

Brigadier-General JONES:

SIR: I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to say that you will please move your division from the right by the rear to your left, and inform the next brigade commander (General Whiting's division) on your left when this movement will take place. It should be done with as little delay as possible, so that you can get into position before night. Direct the artillery of Toombs' brigade to remain in position until relieved by artillery of Whiting's division, either to-day or to-morrow. A brigade to protect this artillery from General Whiting's

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division will be on the spot before General Toombs' brigade moves. Anderson's brigade will relieve the Third Brigade; Whiting's division in the rear of Mrs. Price's house. At dusk two regiments of Anderson's brigade will relieve the two left regiments of Griffith's brigade near Mrs. Price's house and Dr. Garnett's respectively.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PORT REPUBLIC, VA.,
June 6, 1862.

General JOSEPH E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Department of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: My present position is such that if Shields forms a junction with Fremont by moving west he will have to do so by marching within about 2 miles of my advanced brigade or else he must return to New Market. Should my command be required at Richmond I can be at Mechanics' Run [Mechum's River?] Depot, on the Central Railroad, the second day's march, and part of the command can reach there the first day, as the distance is 25 miles. At present I do not see that I can do much more than rest my command and devote its time to drilling. My advanced brigade is about 7 miles this side of Harrisonburg. If Shields crosses the Blue Ridge, shall my entire command, or any part of it, move correspondingly?

While I rejoice at your success, yet I am grieved to hear that you are wounded.

Very respectfully, yours,

T. J. JACKSON,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 8, 1862.

Respectfully forwarded for information of the Secretary of War.

If General Jackson is safe in his position, and cannot undertake offensive operations, which seems to be the case, re-enforcements will be lost upon him. I have written [him] to report what he can do; to rest and refresh his men, and to be prepared to unite with the army near Richmond if called on, but not to omit to strike the enemy if it can be done successfully.

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, *June* 6, 1862.

General J. G. WALKER,
Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

Have you any information of the position of the enemy in the river to-day? How far down do your scouts keep observation? Has the obstruction been affected by the rise in the river?

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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HEADQUARTERS, *June* 7, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

I grieve at the death of General Ashby. I hope he will find a successor. I doubt whether Radford would be. Ransom cannot be spared from his brigade, nor would he, I presume, exchange his command for the cavalry of Jackson. We must endeavor to find some one. General Stuart mentions Col. Fitz. Lee, of the First Virginia Cavalry. I do not know whether he could carry with him Ashby's men.

Send the Georgia regiments you mention. They will be some help. We must aid a gallant man if we perish.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

P. S.—How would Col. Thomas T. Munford, of Second Virginia Cavalry, answer? He seems to be a good officer, judging at this distance. and was elected in place of Radford. General George [H.] Steuart, of the Maryland Brigade, is with Jackson. He is a cavalry officer.

HEADQUARTERS,
June 7, 1862—11 a m.

General JOHNSTON, C. S. A.:

GENERAL: Your kind favor and present are received; many thanks for both. I hope you won't think that I could visit the city without doing myself the pleasure to see you the first thing. I have desired to go in every day, and for no other purpose, but I have been afraid to leave my command for a single moment. It has so turned out that I might have done so, but I did not know it. Not knowing what moment I may be called upon, I am afraid to move. I shall not fail you the first moment that I consider safe.

The failure of complete success on Saturday [May 31] I attribute to the slow movements of General Huger's command. This threw perhaps the hardest part of the battle upon my own poor division. It is greatly cut up, but as true and ready as ever. Our ammunition was nearly exhausted when Whiting moved, and I could not therefore move on with the rush that we could had his movement been earlier. We did advance, however, through three encampments and only stopped at night-fall. The enemy ran in great confusion, but the troops were arranged *en échelon*, and we encountered fresh troops every few hundred yards. These readily fell back, however, as the fleeing ones came to them closely pursued.

I can't but help think that a display of his forces on the left flank of the enemy by General Huger would have completed the affair and given Whiting as easy and pretty a game as was ever had upon a battle-field. Slow men are a little out of place upon the field. Altogether it was very well, but I can't help but regret that it was not complete.

With kindest expressions for Mrs. Johnston and the members of your staff, I remain, truly and sincerely, yours,

JAMES LONGSTREET.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 131. } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, Va., June 7, 1862.*

* * * * * * *

XXIV. Colonel Atkinson's and Colonel Lamar's regiments Georgia Volunteers will immediately proceed via Mechum's River Depot to Port Republic, Va., and report for duty to Maj. Gen. T. J. Jackson, commanding.

By command of Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 8, 1862.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor to inclose to you a list of details and transfers from this army to service in hospitals, in the quartermaster's department, and to other duties, which will take them from the troops now in the presence of the enemy. You will perceive that the army will lose by these orders 37 men, among them 4 sergeants and 6 members of cavalry companies. If it be possible it would be much better to employ persons not in service for hospital duties, or, if this cannot be done, convalescents should be used rather than men on duty in the field, and privates rather than non-commissioned officers.

I respectfully call your attention to the great importance of not diminishing the cavalry force, already too small, by details or transfers for any purpose. You will find some men detailed from this army for service not in the field at distant places. I respectfully request that no such details be made, unless it be found impossible to procure suitable persons for such services at the places where they are to be rendered, or without taking them from this army.

I also respectfully call your attention to the fact that the list shows one transfer from an artillery company in service with this army to a partisan ranger corps. I understand that such transfers would not be made by the Department, and have so replied to a number of applications for similar transfers. I respectfully ask that this army be not diminished by transfers of this kind, at least for the present. The inclosed list represents the accumulation of three days, and if it is to go on it will seriously impair our strength.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 8, 1862.

Col. THOMAS R. R. COBB,
Commanding Georgia Legion:

COLONEL: Your letter of the 7th instant has been received.* It is deemed necessary in the operations about Richmond that the cavalry

*Not found.

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should be kept upon the flanks of the army. The cavalry force being weak and hardly sufficient for the numerous demands upon it, it has been necessary to bring all the cavalry together as much as possible for the supposed good of the service, not from personal considerations. It must be apparent that your cavalry can be much more usefully employed where it is than it could be were it with your Legion in its present position behind the Chickahominy, where there would be no field for its operations. Though it may be on different sides of Richmond, it is in the same wing of the army as your Legion. When it is practicable, independent organizations will not be disturbed; but when a necessity arises every consideration must yield to the public interest. Should more artillery be required with General Cobb's brigade, or should there be no reason why that at present attached to it should continue with it in preference to that belonging to your Legion, I see no reason why, when practicable, an exchange should not be made. If you will make application through General Cobb it will be considered.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 8, 1862.

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General J. E. B. Stuart is charged with all the outpost duty of the army in its present position, and for the purpose all the cavalry has been placed under his command. Special Orders, No. 120, of May 28, is in force. I regret that the order was not received by you previously. I am informed by Captain Mason, assistant adjutant-general with General Johnston, that it was ascertained a day or two after the issue of the order that it had not been received by you, and a special copy with a note of apology was forwarded to you by a staff officer of your command by General Johnston's direction.

I desire you to direct Colonel Davis to report to Brig. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart for orders, and request him, until further directed by General Stuart, to continue his pickets as now posted; to forward any information of importance to him, and at the same time to keep you informed of what is passing in your front.

Orders were given yesterday to have the bridge over James River above Wilton replaced. I was in hopes it had been accomplished.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 8, 1862.

General THOMAS J. JACKSON,
Commanding Army in the Valley:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 6th [addressed to General Johnston] has been received. I congratulate you upon defeating and then avoiding your enemy. Your march to Winchester has been of great advantage, and has been conducted with your accustomed skill and bold-

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ness. I hope you will be able to rest and refresh your troops for a few days before compelled to enter upon active service. I desire you to report the probable intentions of the enemy and what steps you can take to thwart them. Should there be nothing requiring your attention in the valley, so as to prevent your leaving it for a few days, and you can make arrangements to deceive the enemy and impress him with the idea of your presence, please let me know, that you may unite at the decisive moment with the army near Richmond. Make your arrangements accordingly, but should an opportunity occur for striking the enemy a successful blow do not let it escape you.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 8, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. RANSOM,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of June 4 is received.* I desire to reunite the regiments of your brigade, but I think the probability is that there will be more need of your whole command at Drewry's Bluff than at Petersburg. I am now expecting General Holmes to reach Petersburg with a part of his command, when the troops with you can be ordered to Drewry's Bluff to join those now at that place, where they will be nearer the probable scene of action.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, June 8, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: As far as I am able to judge, I am of the opinion that there is a sufficiency of artillery with this army, and that no more could be used to advantage. General Beauregard has already sent upward of 100 surplus pieces to his rear, after retaining what he deemed all that was requisite. Under these circumstances I respectfully suggest that the light artillery now being organized at the fair grounds near Richmond be changed to some other branch of the service, where the horses and men could be used to greater advantage. I do not think the good of the service will be at all advanced by completing their equipment as artillery.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's House, June 8, 1862.

Colonel CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Major-General McLaws writes that he apprehends an attack in his immediate front, and desires that Griffith's brigade be sent to him

*Not found.

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early to-morrow morning. I have declined sending this brigade, as both its officers and men know the ground here so well, and if the enemy attack anywhere I think it will be here. I have informed him, however, that Griffith's brigade should be sent to him if he is pressed and that brigade is not absolutely required here, and that I have suggested that Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill should have orders to send him re-enforcements should he need them and if they can be spared. I do not anticipate the attack there except as a feint, however, but have the honor to request that such instructions be given Major-General Hill.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 9, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

I presume that you have been informed by Captain Milligan that the Monitor and one gunboat are at City Point and that nine gunboats and four transports came up James River at 9 a. m. to-day. He has so telegraphed to the Department.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 9, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I received this morning a telegram from Staunton announcing a glorious victory achieved by the gallant Jackson and his troops. If confirmed it will enable him to take the offensive again. Re-enforcements will therefore be important to him. Those you ordered should go on in that event.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 9, 1862.

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires me to say that General Stuart is charged with all outpost duty of cavalry, and reports are made directly to him for direct communication to the commanding general. Your picketing, of course, under these circumstances is confined to infantry picketing to protect your front. It is designed to put Chaffin's Bluff under command of the Navy, if not already so commanded, and the attention of the authorities at Richmond has again been called to that point by the commanding general. Colonel Stuart's regiment will be assigned in orders to Garland's brigade, D. H. Hill's division, the Sixth Virginia already constituting a part of Mahone's brigade, its reunion with which will be regulated by Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill. Your brigade forming a part of Hill's division, please make all

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reports and communications through him. Divisions and brigades are not numbered, but designated by names of commanders.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 10, 1862.

Col. G. W. LEE,
Commanding, Petersburg, Va.:

Your command, as well as the regiments of General Lawton's brigade, as they arrive at Petersburg, will be sent to General Jackson's army, at Port Republic, via Lynchburg and Mechum's River Station.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 10, 1862.

Brigadier-General RANSOM,
Petersburg, Va.:

The brigade under General Lawton is destined for General Jackson's army, near Port Republic. As the several regiments arrive at Petersburg cause them to be sent by railroad via Lynchburg to Mechum's River Depot.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 10, 1862.

Col. HUGH R. MILLER,
Oxford, Miss.:

Proceed with your regiment of Mississippi Volunteers by railroad to this city, and report to this office. Apply to nearest quartermaster for transportation by railroad.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, Va., June 10, 1862.

Col. A. C. MYERS,
Quartermaster-General:

COLONEL: This army has with it in the field little or no protection from weather. Tents seem to have been abandoned, and the men cover themselves by means of their blankets and other contrivances. The shelter-tent seems to be preferred by them, and I have thought that something could be manufactured out of the tents now on hand better than what they have in use. A simple fly, or cloth of that shape, would answer the purpose. This continued inclement weather I fear will produce great sickness, and I desire to see what can be done for the

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protection and comfort of the men. Please give me your views and the capabilities of the department to afford relief.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's Farm, Va., June 10, 1862.

Col. R. H. CHILTON:

SIR: I have the honor to represent that I am informed that Major-General Longstreet is in command of all the troops on the right flank or on the Williamsburg road. As I occupy a similar position, on the Nine-mile road, to General Longstreet, I beg to be informed whether I am in command of General Whiting's as well as the troops of the right wing, regularly assigned to me. I consider it of importance to have this fairly understood. Had I so considered myself I would have taken many steps which I recommended, but did not consider myself at liberty to order.

The troops holding the ground between the Old Tavern and the railroad and those holding the positions at Mr. Garnett's and Mrs. Price's should obviously be under one commander.

I have also the honor to request to be informed if the engineers assigned to the division commanders under me are subject to my order, and if not, whether the commanding general will assign an engineer to me. I should prefer Lieutenant Douglas. Many works expected to be accomplished by me are delayed for the want of an engineer to lay them out and extend them as may be required.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 10, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: With regard to General Whiting's division being within your control, the commanding general desires me to say that your command does not extend beyond those of Generals McLaws' and Jones'. He thinks by continuing the system of division commanders greater harmony may be preserved throughout the army, as all questions involving differences of opinion may be referred to a common superior and promptly settled. This arrangement may be changed during an engagement, if deemed expedient at the time.

With regard to the assignment of Lieutenant Douglas, engineer Provisional Army, to your division, the general considers it necessary, in order to secure the prompt and energetic performance of all duties pertaining to that branch of the service, that engineer officers should report to Major Stevens, chief engineer of this army, so as to be under the direction of one head, and consequently more available and easily reached when required for particular service.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's House, Va., June 10, 1862.

Col. A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I regret to inform you that I cannot find the map of Hanover that you request. I think Major Bryan, who is now absent, has the map with him. As soon as I can procure it I will send it to you.

I addressed a note this morning to Colonel Chilton, requesting information concerning the extent of my command. I wish it to be distinctly understood that I was pressing no claim, but only wished to know what my responsibilities were in order to meet them. My only desire is to understand and ascertain the intentions of the general commanding, which I will cheerfully carry out. In any disposition that will be made I feel confident of my ability to co-operate with General Whiting, but the letter was written because the subject-matter of inquiry was too important not to be clearly understood, and difference of opinions necessarily arise, as they have already arisen, concerning what troops should make certain partial attacks on the enemy, which we both considered proper. These differences are not accompanied by anything unpleasant between General Whiting and myself, but are such as will necessarily arise between two independent minds when neither commands, and produce inconvenience in little matters too unimportant to be referred to the commanding general. For instance, if the fortification at Golding's is to be attacked, my troops should do it, and if the woods to the left of the Nine-mile road are to be kept clear of the enemy, General Whiting's troops should do it, as my troops hold positions too vital for them to leave for that purpose. If the commanding general should wish the woods to be kept clear I am willing to make the attack with two of my brigades and one of General Whiting's, provided that he send one to replace Cobb's brigade at Mrs. Christian's, as I would take his brigade, and the front he now guards would then be left uncovered. The rest of General Whiting's brigades could then remain in the main line of battle as a reserve to this forward movement should that be decided on at any time.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

OUTPOST, *June* 10, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, C. S. A.:

The anniversary of Bethel has turned my thoughts to you with the hope that you may prove the deliverer of the country. It is now plain to my mind that Richmond can only be saved by a wide sweep entirely to the rear of the enemy. Without Beauregard this cannot be done. Let us give up the South for the time to capture McClellan. A wide detour to the rear by 50,000 men would accomplish the object. The enemy has now ditched himself up to the very gates of Richmond. In a week or two weeks at furthest he will open his siege batteries and the capital must fall. Had our whole force been thrown on the Williamsburg road last Sunday all might have been well. But alas! it was not done. We had got in rear of the obstructions which foiled Smith and Whiting. Now the roads are connected by abatis and rifle pits. The enemy can only be turned by a wide circuit in rear of all the

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enemy's works. More force must be had to accomplish it, else the capital will fall. I have been over the ground, understand it, and the spirit of our troops. I think I know what they can do and what they cannot do. The loss of all our Southern cities is as nothing in comparison with the capture of McClellan and a rapid march northward. My deep, almost agonizing interest in this struggle must be my apology for again intruding upon your time.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA.,
June 10, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

The report sent you yesterday by the signal officer at Petersburg seems to have been a mistake of his own. As soon as your dispatch reached me I sent Colonel Manning down to the mouth of the Appomattox; last night he sent me the information that there are four gunboats at Jones' Wharf, three near Turkey Island, and one small one at Bermuda Hundred. The signal dispatch sent by the lieutenant near City Point, on which Captain Milligan's report to you was based, was as follows: Monitor and one gunboat off City Point, nine gunboats up James River; all quiet on the river. There were no transports seen yesterday by my pickets or at the signal station. I have no report from that direction this morning, which I would have had if anything unusual was going on.

J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS NEAR RICHMOND, VA.,
June 10, 1862.

Commanders of divisions will cause the utmost care and vigilance to be used in protecting and watching their front. They will also use every means in their power to gain all possible information of the operations of the enemy in their immediate vicinity, finding out his position, strength, and the possibility of striking him a successful blow. The advance of the enemy's working parties must be promptly arrested by our artillery and sharpshooters, each commander using his own discretion in the manner of attacking and annoying them in their approach to his position. When an effort of this kind is to be made the commander directing it will notify contiguous commanders of his intentions, that they may be ready to support him should it be necessary, and will also report to the general commanding the Army. Commanders of divisions will use every means at their command to strengthen their positions in the most perfect manner with redoubts, barricades, abatis, rifle pits, &c. This will be done when positions only be but temporarily occupied. They will also cause particular attention to be paid to the health and comfort of the men under command, and endeavor to spare unnecessary exposure or fatigue. It is enjoined upon commanders to cause strict discipline to be observed in their respective commands. Offenders must in all cases be arrested and made to answer for their offenses.

By order of General Lee:

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

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HEADQUARTERS, *June* 11, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Two brigades of General Smith's division, under General Whiting, have been selected to re-enforce temporarily General Jackson. This will render some change in the disposition of the troops in front of the enemy necessary. I desire you to extend your command to the York River Railroad. The brigades of Generals Pender and Archer will, as soon as relieved by you, join the portion of General Smith's command under General A. P. Hill, who has been directed to take position nearer to your left. If you find it necessary for the occupation of the ground between the Nine-mile road and railroad you can withdraw from your left such portion of your troops as may be requisite as General A. P. Hill closes upon you. Make the movement quietly, if practicable, consulting the comfort of the troops as well as the good of the service, which I know your good judgment will insure.

I am, general, with great esteem, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 11, 1862.

Maj. Gen. A. P. HILL,
Brooke Road, Va.:

General Magruder has been directed to close by the right to the York River Railroad. He will probably be obliged to vacate a portion of the ground on his left, which you must occupy. The brigades of Generals Hampton, Pender, and Archer have been directed to report to you. As they are suffering from sickness I suggest that they be placed in reserve.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Richmond, Va., June 11, 1862.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS J. JACKSON,
Commanding Valley District:

GENERAL: Your recent successes have been the cause of the liveliest joy in this army as well as in the country. The admiration excited by your skill and boldness has been constantly mingled with solicitude for your situation. The practicability of re-enforcing you has been the subject of earnest consideration. It has been determined to do so at the expense of weakening this army. Brigadier-General Lawton with six regiments from Georgia is on the way to you, and Brigadier-General Whiting with eight veteran regiments leaves here to-day. The object is to enable you to crush the forces opposed to you. Leave your enfeebled troops to watch the country and guard the passes covered by your cavalry and artillery, and with your main body, including Ewell's division and Lawton's and Whiting's commands, move rapidly to Ashland by rail or otherwise, as you may find most advantageous, and sweep down between the Chickahominy and Pamunkey, cutting up the enemy's communications, &c., while this army attacks General McClellan in front. He will thus, I think, be forced to come out of his intrenchments, where he is strongly posted on the Chickahominy, and apparently pre-

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paring to move by gradual approaches on Richmond. Keep me advised of your movements, and, if practicable, precede your troops, that we may confer and arrange for simultaneous attack.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, Va., June 11, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: It is very desirable and important that the acquisition of troops to the command of Maj. Gen. T. J. Jackson should be kept secret. With this view I have the honor to request that you will use your influence with the Richmond newspapers to prevent any mention of the same in the public prints.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's Farm, Va., June 11, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. E. B. STUART,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: You are desired to make a secret movement to the rear of the enemy, now posted on Chickahominy, with a view of gaining intelligence of his operations, communications, &c.; of driving in his foraging parties, and securing such grain, cattle, &c., for ourselves as you can make arrangements to have driven in. Another object is to destroy his wagon trains, said to be daily passing from the Piping Tree road to his camp on the Chickahominy. The utmost vigilance on your part will be necessary to prevent any surprise to yourself, and the greatest caution must be practiced in keeping well in your front and flanks reliable scouts to give you information.

You will return as soon as the object of your expedition is accomplished, and you must bear constantly in mind, while endeavoring to execute the general purpose of your mission, not to hazard unnecessarily your command or to attempt what your judgment may not approve; but be content to accomplish all the good you can without feeling it necessary to obtain all that might be desired.

I recommend that you only take such men and horses as can stand the expedition, and that you take every means in your power to save and cherish those you do take. You must leave sufficient cavalry here for the service of this army, and remember that one of the chief objects of your expedition is to gain intelligence for the guidance of future operations.

Information received last evening, the points of which I sent you, lead me to infer that there is a stronger force on the enemy's right than was previously reported. A large body of infantry, as well as cavalry, was reported near the Central Railroad. Should you find upon investigation that the enemy is moving to his right, or is so strongly posted as to render your expedition inopportune—as its success, in my

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opinion, depends upon its secrecy—you will, after gaining all the information you can, resume your former position.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 11, 1862.

Maj. Gen. A. P. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general commanding authorizes you to rearrange the brigade as far as practicable, and, as proposed in your letter of this morning, it being his wish to carry out the law in this respect so far as present condition of things will permit, please forward to this office, according to circular issued a few days since, a statement of composition of your division, its brigades, and the regiments and other organizations embraced within each; also names and rank of commanders of each respectively.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 11, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ARCHER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires that so soon as relieved by General J. B. Magruder you will quietly move your command to the left of Magruder's division, reporting to Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill, who has been directed to close up on our left with his portion of the command of Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith, of which yours and the other two brigades constitute a part.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 11, 1862.

Major-General PEMBERTON,
Charleston, S. C.:

Movements of an important and decisive character are practicable if we can get re-enforcements from the South. Send them if you possibly can without too much risk to Charleston.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
June 11, 1862.

Maj. Gen. A. P. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I am just about to relieve the brigades of Generals Pender and Archer, who are ordered to report to you. To do this I am

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compelled to move the troops from my left flank, fronting on the Chickahominy, where the enemy have built bridges and require to be constantly watched in force. In order to carry out the orders of General Lee, directing me to relieve General Whiting's troops and to fill up the dangerous vacancy on my left, caused by the withdrawal of my troops, I have ordered Generals Pender and Archer to occupy this vacancy as soon as relieved from their present position and report to you by letter. It will require all my command to hold the line from the Chickahominy about Mrs. Price's house across the railroad. General Lee writes that you have been directed to take position more to my left. You will perceive the necessity of closing well up to my line. There are many necessary defensive works in progress on the line where your troops will replace mine.

I am, sir, &c.,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

CAMP ON VARINA ROADS,
June 11, 1862.

Major-General HILL,
Commanding Third Division, &c.:

GENERAL: I am notified that the Fifty-sixth Regiment Virginia Volunteers, now under Major Slaughter, is ordered to report to Brigadier-General Garland, and the Sixth, under Colonel Rogers, alone is left at Chaffin's Bluff. This reduces the forces for the defense of the batteries on the north side of James River to a very small and inadequate number. The enemy on the Long Bridge road seem to be advancing, and a number of gunboats and transports, from five to ten at various times, are lying just below Varina, landing from time to time in small parties, and threatening to land in force. I ask that the four companies belonging to the fourth regiment of my brigade, three from Brigadier-General Rodes' brigade, and one from Drewry's Bluff may be ordered to join their regiments immediately. The whole of my cavalry has been detached and put under orders of General Stuart. Our men are suffering from the rains and want of tents.

Very respectfully,

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement No. 1.]

The force with General Rodes was ordered three days ago to join General Wise. By desertion and general worthlessness it has been reduced to about 80 men.

D. H. HILL.

[Indorsement No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 11, 1862.

Respectfully returned to General D. H. Hill to ascertain if his orders have been carried out by the three heavy artillery companies, Goode's regiment, and reasons for not reporting to General Wise.

By order of General R. E. Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's, Va., June 11, 1862.

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Northern Virginia:

SIR: From the experience of a year I know that no defensive works of any great strength can be expected of troops. It is as much as they will do to throw up such temporary field works as may be absolutely necessary in the presence of the enemy, where negroes cannot work; and as it would be of the greatest importance and advantage to us so to fortify our positions as to be enabled to send off troops to produce diversions or to operate in the rear and on the enemy's flanks, I respectfully state, for the information of the commanding general, that I have with me one of my agents, a most efficient and effective man, who impressed for me a large number of negroes in the different counties, and who knows all about it. These negroes could be employed night and day on the works in the rear of our present positions and could render them really formidable. If the bridges of the railroads were rebuilt at once and the roads protected, which I think could be done, and subsistence stores (flour, at least) be accumulated at Richmond in large quantities, we could have a small army in our works, and a large one to threaten and fight the enemy with a view to raising the siege.

In proposing this I would not give up an inch of ground which we can hold. My plan is to fight in front and fortify with the greatest vigor in rear. Several thousand negroes would be necessary.

Mr. Junius Lamb is now with me, and is the agent I allude to. I will have all the papers drawn up and printed, and if General Lee will sign them the negroes will be obtained.

This plan will not interfere in any degree with any offensive operations which might be inaugurated. I speak of it only to offer to the commanding general the means which I have successfully employed in the Peninsula to accomplish a similar purpose.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

HEADQUARTERS,
Thorne's, Va., June 11, 1862.

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: The changes of troops ordered to-day have the effect to diminish the forces by which the positions at and near the Old Tavern have heretofore [been] defended. Brigadier-General Whiting's command of about 1,200 men were not considered by him or myself as more than necessary to defend these positions.

After moving all of Major-General McLaws' brigades, now stationed on the left of Mrs. Price's house, to the position occupied by General Whiting's troops, I find that they will amount to less than 7,000 men. As the enemy has evidently settled upon this and the railroad as his lines of advance, and as the Nine-mile and New Bridge roads offer him greater advantages, the main struggle will probably be there. The force now to be stationed there I do not therefore consider sufficient,

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in view of the great and absolute necessity of preventing his advance by either of these roads.

Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, who is with me now, says that he does not consider Mahone's brigade on the Charles City road as necessary. He placed him there himself, having no other convenient place for him.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 130. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 11, 1862.

I. Brig. Gen. William H. C. Whiting, with two brigades of Smith's division, to be selected by himself, will, as soon as practicable, report to General T. J. Jackson, commanding Army of the Valley. The troops, with three days' cooked rations, will march to the Danville Railroad station in Richmond, where cars will be in readiness for their transportation. General Whiting will, in addition, select two batteries of Smith's division to accompany him if transportation can be obtained. Should the means of land transportation with General Jackson be insufficient to meet the wants of this command, such as may be necessary will proceed hence to Charlottesville, and thence proceed as directed. This command, being detached for temporary and special service, will move in the lightest marching order.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 12, 1862.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector-General:

GENERAL: Some days since Colonel Pate, who is to command a battalion or regiment of cavalry, was to have reported here for duty with such companies as were organized, without regard to those in course of organization. The cavalry companies are greatly needed, and even where not fully armed can be usefully employed in replacing couriers of instructed regiments. The general commanding desires me to ask of you to cause Colonel Pate to report here without further delay with all of the companies which have been organized.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's, Va., June 12, 1862.

Major-General MCLAWS:

SIR: I am directed by Major-General Magruder to say to you that you will arrange your troops along the line from the railroad to the Nine-mile road in such a manner as your judgment may direct as most

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suitable for defense, using for this purpose such artificial defenses already constructed or commenced as in your discretion may seem proper. In carrying out the orders of General Lee it will be necessary to maintain very nearly a line resting on the railroad so as to support or cover the batteries being constructed there, with your right resting on the railroad and your left on the traverses near Mrs. Price's and to the left of the Nine-mile road. You will dispose of your troops on the intermediate line as you may deem proper and to the best advantage.

I am further directed to ask you to report to these headquarters the final disposition you may make of the troops. In any arrangement that you may make you are directed to keep your pickets as well advanced to the front as they are at present, and to retain not less than a regiment in support of them, and the artillery in or near the artillery epaulement most advanced on the Nine-mile road.

I am, general, very respectfully,

J. L. BRENT,
Major and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's House, Va., June 12, 1862.

Major-General MCLAWS:

GENERAL: I am directed by Major-General Magruder to instruct you to fortify the line you may select between the flanks and a point indicated to you in a former communication as rapidly as possible. The artificial defenses already constructed will be used or improved by you when deemed advisable, and additional intrenchments will be made by you, using for that purpose such tools as you may have or be able to procure. You will use your own judgment in strengthening your position, as no engineer can be furnished you in addition to the one you have, in case you should have one assigned you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. BRENT,
Major and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 12, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: Please move one of your brigades to the pine wood where General Ripley's has been and relieve his till to-morrow.

I send you the best affairs that we can get up for Williamsburg and the Seven Pines. I only send you two "Williamsburg," one for the Fifth North Carolina and one for the Twenty-fourth Virginia. If there are others entitled to it send up for others.

I send enough of the Seven Pines for your troops, but think that neither of the regiments that left the battle-field have the slightest claim to it nor the regiment that lost its colors. Properly, it is not even entitled to colors.

We must endeavor to have this thing select, or it will be of no service. Any regiment that goes through the battle creditably I think entitled to the inscription; but I hold that no regiment goes through creditably when it leaves the field before the fight is over; particularly when repeated efforts have to be made to get it back upon the field.

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I have spoken in strong terms about this, because I am entirely satisfied that it is just.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

No regiment of mine can ever have the name of a battle upon its banners if it quits the field before the battle is ended.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 12, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Yours of this morning is received. If you think that the Twenty-third North Carolina and Thirty-eighth Virginia deserve "Williamsburg" I think so too. My own impressions were taken from what I heard, not what I saw. I did not therefore venture an opinion on the subject.

I would like to compare rear guard and picket service with you. However, that has nothing to do with the question. My division has been put back as the reserve, and I do not think that I have the right to use it without the authority of the general. It is not the place that I ever expected my command to occupy, and should never have thought of seeking it. I don't think that I have ever complained of having more to do than any one else, but am entirely willing to compare with any other troops. I have had the same troops for a year. No one has been ahead of me in moving to the front since Manassas. Our travel has been on foot wherever we have gone, except from Richmond to Yorktown. I was rear guard from Falls Church to Fairfax Court-House; again from Fairfax Court-House to Centreville; again from Centreville to Culpeper Court-House; again from Yorktown.

Picket duty every one has had to do, and I presume that I have done more of it than any other person, as I have been months at a time in advance of every one else—just after Manassas up to October.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT DIVISION,
June 12, 1862.

Brig. Gen. L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: Move your command this morning. Leave two companies on picket to show themselves occasionally.

Either I or my staff will point out your camp to you. Take especial pains to prevent depredations on private property.

Yours,

A. P. HILL,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 135. } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., June 12, 1862.

* * * * * * *

XVIII. Commander T. J. Page, C. S. Navy, having been appointed colonel of artillery, Provisional Army, and having reported for duty to

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the War Department, is assigned to the command of the batteries at Chaffin's and Ball's Bluffs, and will report for further orders to General Robert E. Lee, commanding the forces.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., June 13, 1862.

It is necessary for the War Department to impress slaves to complete certain fortifications for the protection of the country. The citizens of Halifax, Lunenburg, Charlotte, Pittsylvania, and Campbell Counties are therefore called upon to send forthwith one-fourth of their male slaves between the ages of sixteen and fifty to execute this work in the vicinity of Richmond. The negroes will be paid for at the rate of $10 per month each, and receive an ample supply of provisions [rate of compensation changed to $20 per month by order of the Secretary of War], the money to be paid by the Engineer Department to their masters promptly at the places where they may work. The cost of transportation to be paid by the Government.

The bearer of this, Capt. William Turnbull, is authorized to give receipts for the negroes, and from the dates of said receipts the Government of the Confederate States will be responsible for the slaves according to the laws of Virginia, with the additional responsibility for their value, should they escape to, or be injured by, the enemy. These negroes will be sent to the nearest railroad depots, in accordance with instructions to be given by the agent. Cost of transportation will be paid upon the production of evidence, signed by the agent, that it has been furnished. In order to facilitate the collection of the negroes the Government agent may appoint sub-agents from among the owners of slaves in the counties called upon, two of whose negroes will be released as compensation for their labor.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The inspector, Colonel Lay, reports within your command a division train of thirty wagons (not allowed by standing orders), and three fragmentary trains, averaging twelve wagons each, with the assistant quartermaster's. The general commanding requests that you will [furnish] a report of all transportation on hand, with employés attached to each, through your division quartermaster. I inclose circular regulating transportation allowances.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

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PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 13, 1862.

GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

I took all the Norfolk cars I could get; most of my cars were up the road loaded when all the rest were sent for the prisoners. When I ordered them back they were delayed some time by the quartermaster in Lynchburg telling our agent they should not go. The superintendent of the telegraph line said there was not time to fix instruments, or outside operators should not tamper with their wires. The trains of empty cars had to be brought back to carry troops from here and also for Mr. Talcott; as I had a good many of his cars I presume [he] wanted them. I was unwell at the time the movement commenced, and my anxiety that it should go on right put me to bed, where I am still very sick, but I believe the troops have gone as fast and safely as they could go at so short a notice. I did not suppose you were ignorant of the number of troops, but I was ignorant until near the time of the troops starting from Richmond that they were all to go the same day. Mr. Talcott telegraphed me they would start next day. He sent the sick to the Junction. I feel much concerned that you complain of my communicating your movement in the way I have done. I have made no communication except through the telegraph; but perhaps there may be a mistake in that part of the wording of your telegraph. If I erred, it was from my desire to carry the troops as fast and safely as they could go.

H. D. BIRD.

PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 13, 1862.

GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

I am laid up sick, but our agents are getting the troops through as fast as they can. If you issue orders to them it will confuse them, delay the troops, cause collisions, &c. Do send your orders to me. You are not aware that while you were sending 6,000 men from Richmond General Ransom was sending 4,000 from Petersburg; the Surgeon-General sending up sick trains; our cars ordered to Lynchburg for Yankee prisoners—all with scarcely any notice. Our agents and men are doing all that can be done to expedite the troops. I can't work my road like some others; have only two telegraph stations between Junction and Lynchburg, and they not under our control.

H. D. BIRD.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA.,
June 14, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

My pickets and the lieutenant of the signal corps at the mouth of the Appomattox report that a gunboat, towing a lighter, on which were six pieces of field artillery, came down to City Point late in the day yesterday, remained there during the night, and proceeded farther down the river [in the morning]. Also that the Monitor, accompanied by two wooden gunboats, on one of which was a company of sharp-

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shooters, and a steam transport freighted, as was supposed, with shot and shell, left City Point at 11 o'clock to-day and passed slowly up this way. Late this afternoon they had not come above Jones' Wharf, some 12 miles by water below this place. I do not know what importance to attach to these facts. The field artillery, perhaps, came from McClellan's army.

J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 68. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 14 1862.

I. The Secretary of War having expressed determination, in addition to such other punishment as a court-martial may award, to revoke the authority to raise partisan corps in every instance where the partisan officer is proved to have received into his corps men already belonging to the service, commanders of troops will report all such cases as come within their own knowledge, in order that this evil may be promptly corrected.

II. Great waste of ammunition is reported from the practice of issuing packages of cartridges to be carried in pockets of the men. This is prohibited, except where men are about to engage the enemy. All injured ammunition will be turned in to the regimental ordnance sergeants for remanufacture at Richmond, and commanding officers of regiments will see that company commanders make frequent inspections of the ammunition in charge of their men, and that this order is strictly enforced.

III. The subject of subsisting this army having become one of the gravest importance, it is required that the most rigid examination be made of all provision returns to verify their correspondence with the number of enlisted men actually present with companies on the day for which the return is made. To secure the proper issue of provisions to the troops brigade commanders will indorse their consolidated provision returns as "examined and verified by morning reports," which returns, consolidated at division headquarters, will be indorsed by division commanders as "verified and approved," the chief commissary not issuing upon any returns unless so indorsed. Returns will be in detailed form, stating number of men and dates inclusive for which provisions are required.

IV. Division commanders will make field returns the 10th and 20th of each month, and also the usual returns at the end of each month. It is indispensable for the advised action of the commanding general with regard to the operations of the army that he should have full knowledge of the force under his command, and returns will be promptly rendered at the periods stated.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 15, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JAMES LONGSTREET,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Inclosed I send copy of an order for the Sixth Virginia

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to rejoin its brigade. The commanding general desires that arrangements may be made to support Chaffin's Bluff battery with General Wise's brigade.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 15, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. B. MAGRUDER, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: General Lee desires me to inform you that, in compliance with the wish you expressed a few days since, Lieut. Col. S. D. Lee is temporarily assigned to duty with the artillery now operating with the troops under your command.

It is not the intention of the commanding general to remove Colonel Lee permanently from the division with which he was formerly serving.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's Va., June 15, 1862.

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: Some time since I reported to the commanding general that I considered the forces of Major-General McLaws alone inadequate to securely hold their present position, which in my opinion was only securely held by General Whiting's division, which numbers several thousand more than Major-General McLaws', and consequently suggested that another brigade be ordered to strengthen this line. In my letter I indicated Brigadier-General Mahone's brigade because I understood from Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill that that brigade was placed on the Charles City road on observation, and that it had been definitely ascertained that the enemy was not [in] force or threatening us on that road, which seems to be confirmed by the late reconnaissance of General Stuart. Further observation has strengthened me in the belief that another brigade is necessary for the proper defense of the position I hold, and as I have never received an answer to my former letter, I have the honor to present the matter again for the information of the commanding general.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
June 15, 1862.

Major BRYAN, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

SIR:

* * * * * * *

I respectfully request that the relief of General Toombs' brigade be drawn from the brigade to the left. General Gregg, whose position

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has been so strengthened by redoubts that the force to defend it is not required as large as heretofore, and General Gregg has a force considerably larger than General Kershaw has. By allowing General Griffith to join his proper command much confusion, dissatisfaction, and annoyance will be avoided and the service be benefited to that extent at least.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Brigadier-General Toombs' brigade having occupied an exposed position without relief for nine days, and it having been reported to me that the men are even annoyed with vermin, I regard it as necessary that it should be relieved and should hold a reserve position for some time. As General Jones' other brigade was engaged in holding the positions at Mrs. Price's and Mr. James Garnett's, I had directed General McLaws to relieve General Toombs' brigade by a brigade from his division, but in reply to this order I received the within communication from General McLaws. If it be practicable I have the honor to recommend that General Gregg be ordered to relieve Colonel Anderson's brigade, in order that the latter brigade may relieve General Toombs. I have the honor to recommend that this course be pursued; but as General Gregg does not belong to my command it will be necessary for an order to proceed from the Headquarters of the Army to accomplish this purpose. If, however, the brigade from the Charles City road be ordered over it will supersede the necessity of ordering General Gregg's brigade to relieve Colonel Anderson.

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE,
June 15, 1862.

General Ripley has been ordered forward to attack the enemy's outposts. Heintzelman is in our front and will probably give battle. See that your men have canteens; haversacks filled with cooked provisions, if possible. Rains' brigade will lead the advance in this division and this brigade next. Keep your men in the shade, but under arms, ready to move when the order comes. The order of march will be: Fifth Alabama, Twelfth Alabama, Sixth Alabama, and Twelfth Mississippi on left.

J. B. GORDON,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 16, 1862.

Maj. Gen. A. P. HILL, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I inclose herewith Surgeon De Leon's report* respecting the sick of Hood's and Whiting's brigades, which went with Major-General Whiting. As these brigades constitute a part of your division,

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the general commanding requests that you cause your medical director to give proper attention to these men, and also have them assembled together, under command of the senior officer present, in order that they may be provided for through your commissariat and quartermaster's department. The camps are now dispersed, to the detriment of public property left in their charge. Maj. A. H. Cole, inspector of transportation, has been directed to look after their wagons, &c. Please report course taken in this matter. It is not intended that these men should join their regiments at present, but when sufficiently recovered to be employed. Please return Surgeon De Leon's report.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Richmond, Va., June 16, 1862.

Maj. Gen. THOMAS J. JACKSON,
Commanding Valley District:

GENERAL: I have received your letter by the Hon. Mr. Boteler. I hope you will be able to recruit and refresh your troops sufficiently for the movement proposed in my letter of the 11th. You have only acknowledged my letter of the 8th. I am therefore ignorant whether that of the 11th has reached you. From your account of the position of the enemy I think it would be difficult for you to engage him in time to unite with this army in the battle for Richmond. Frémont and Shields are apparently retrograding, their troops shaken and disorganized, and some time will be required to set them again in the field. If this is so, the sooner you unite with this army the better. McClellan is being strengthened; Burnside is with him, and some of McDowell's troops are also reported to have joined him. There is much sickness in his ranks, but his re-enforcements by far exceed his losses. The present, therefore, seems to be favorable for a junction of your army and this. If you agree with me, the sooner you can make arrangements to do so the better. In moving your troops you could let it be understood that it was to pursue the enemy in your front. Dispose those to hold the valley so as to deceive the enemy, keeping your cavalry well in their front, and at the proper time suddenly descending upon the Pamunkey. To be efficacious, the movement must be secret. Let me know the force you can bring, and be careful to guard from friends and foes your purpose and your intention of personally leaving the valley. The country is full of spies, and our plans are immediately carried to the enemy. Please inform me what arrangements you can make for subsisting your troops. Beef-cattle could at least be driven, and if necessary we can subsist on meat alone.

Unless McClellan can be driven out of his intrenchments he will move by positions under cover of his heavy guns within shelling distance of Richmond. I know of no surer way of thwarting him than that proposed. I should like to have the advantage of your views and be able to confer with you. Will meet you at some point on your approach to the Chickahominy. I inclose a copy of my letter of the 11th, lest the original should not have reached you.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS, *June* 16, 1862.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I have just ordered a North Carolina regiment to your division. This will enable you to form a North Carolina brigade of four regiments. Please make that arrangement of the State brigade at once.

I would suggest that in making your trenches you have them run with regard to protecting the men from the fire of the enemy's long-range guns. I don't think we have as much to apprehend in the way of an attack as the long guns.

Very respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS WISE'S BRIGADE,
Camp on Varina Road, June 16, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your courier delivered yours of to-day at 6.30 p. m.

I will send your orders to the Fifty-sixth Regiment Virginia Volunteers immediately. I shall start early in the morning, and it would have reported to your camp before now had I been ordered to forward it, but I was expressly informed by General Lee that it was not under my command.

I deeply regret the severe loss of your gallant division.

You express the hope that I have rifle pits and abatis, &c. As yet it has been impossible to obey General Johnston's orders to picket the Varina and New Market roads and to construct any works at the obstructions or batteries or bridge across James River with the force under me. Our force is barely sufficient to picket so many roads and points as those we are stationed to guard. I looked to the regiments, the Fifty-sixth and Sixth, stationed at Chaffin's Bluff, to throw up works where they are required on the river, and wrote to General Lee, through you, inquiring whether the forces at the Bluff were under my command. He replied the batteries would be placed under orders of the Navy Department; the Fifty-sixth would be ordered to report to you, and the Sixth belonged to General Mahone's brigade. Colonel Stuart, commanding at the bluff, has been relieved, and Colonel Rogers, of the Sixth, is in command now. To him I will forward your present order. I can't but think that General Lee must have mistaken me. He thought, perhaps, I was asking to have these regiments joined to my brigade. Not so; I merely meant to ask whether I was in command of the defenses and forces on the right of the army and on the James River's left bank, and received the above reply, leaving me still to picket the Varina and New Market roads and the river landings.

Now, sir, I beg of you to have my command here defined; if it is expected of me to command the forces and defenses at Chaffin's Bluff, I can set the forces there to constructing rifle pits around and about the batteries and the obstructions, and the only bridge of retreat, if we are compelled to cross the river, and keep my brigade upon the roads, but I have not force enough to do both. I will anxiously await your instructions.

Remember that the Bluff is near 2 miles from my headquarters; the obstructions about 3, and the bridge about 4 miles, and my infantry

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pickets extend down the river about 2 miles. The three thin regiments I have can't do double duty at points from 2 to 4 or 5 miles apart. I will send you a condensed report in a day or two in full, but can now report in brief my whole force to be, of both infantry and artillery, 117 officers and 1,543 non-commissioned officers and privates present. Of these, 364 are on the sick list in camp, leaving a fighting force of 1,296.

We have been expecting the enemy every day; were called out in the pouring rain yesterday evening to meet him, and to-day he is shelling the river sides heavily below us about Curl's Neck. Rifle pits or not, we will fight him when he comes, and will watch him and work all we can all the time.

We received the countersigns to-day.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

HENRY A. WISE,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement No. 1.]

The letter of General Wise is respectfully referred to General Lee, that General Wise may receive definite orders.

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[Indorsement No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 17, 1862.

The post at Chaffin's Bluff is under the command of Captain Page, of the Navy, who commands the batteries and men that man them. The engineers are engaged in its construction. The Fifty-sixth and Sixth Virginia Regiments were ordered to Chaffin's Bluff as a supporting force when the position was first occupied. They have now been ordered to their respective brigades, as it is considered advisable to keep brigades united, if practicable. General Wise being on the extreme right, it is desired that his brigade should become the supporting force of the battery, for which purpose, if more advantageous, it is suggested that he take position on the line established by Major Stevens, chief engineer, for occupation by the troops. He could then strengthen his position by rifle pits, &c., as designed by the engineers. His brigade pickets need only extend in his front as far as may be deemed necessary, the advanced positions being held by the cavalry. Major Stevens will be desired to designate to General Wise the line of defense, and General Stuart to give directions to the cavalry pickets.

Respectfully referred to General D. H. Hill to give proper instructions.

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 17, 1862.

General D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: According to my papers you now have eight North Carolina regiments, or two brigades. The one regiment (892 men) you speak of is as large as some of my brigades. This, with the other two regiments of 200 each, will go considerably above most of my brigades. Now, if you will give him one of your other regiments I think his brigade will be quite a respectable one. To call a brigade of 1,600 small—

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I think it quite respectable for these times. I cannot promise another regiment. I don't think that more than four should be in a brigade, unless they are exceedingly small.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

Nothing from the War Department yet.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 17, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,

GENERAL: I inclose the order detaching General Rains. Please assign General G. B. Anderson to the command of Rains' brigade, or, if you like better, transfer the Twenty-fourth Virginia to that brigade, and send Garland to it and Anderson to the brigade now commanded by Garland.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

I have ordered another North Carolina regiment to you to-day.

[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 135. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 16, 1862.

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VI. Brig. Gen. G. J. Rains is detached from his brigade, and will report to the commanding general for orders.

* * * * * * *

By command of General R. E. Lee:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Army before Richmond, June 17, 1862.

SOLDIERS: You have marched out to fight the battles of your country, and by those battles you must be rescued from the shame of slavery. Your foes have declared their purpose of bringing you to beggary; and avarice, their natural characteristic, incites them to redoubled efforts for the conquest of the South, in order that they may seize her sunny fields and happy homes. Already has the hatred of one of their great leaders attempted to make the negro your equal by declaring his freedom. They care not for the blood of babes nor carnage of innocent women which servile insurrection thus stirred up may bring upon their heads. Worse than this, the North has sent forth another infamous chief, encouraging the lust of his hirelings to the dishonor and violation of those Southern women who have so untiringly labored to clothe our soldiers in the field and nurse our sick and wounded. If ever men were called upon to defend the beloved daughters of their

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country, that now is our duty. Let such thoughts nerve you up to the most dreadful shock of battle; for were it certain death, death would be better than the fate that defeat would entail upon us all. But remember, though the fiery noise of battle is indeed most terrifying, and seems to threaten universal ruin, it is not so destructive as it seems, and few soldiers after all are slain. This the commanding general desires particularly to impress upon the fresh and inexperienced troops who now constitute a part of this command. Let officers and men, even under the most formidable fire, preserve a quiet demeanor and self-possessed temper. Keep cool, obey orders, and aim low. Remember while you are doing this, and driving the enemy before you, your comrades may be relied on to support you on either side, and are in turn relying upon you.

Stand well to your duty, and when these clouds break away, as they surely will, the bright sunlight of peace falling upon our free, virtuous, and happy land will be a sufficient reward for the sacrifices which we are now called upon to make.

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 17, 1862.

General J. E. B. STUART,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say to you that he desires you to establish cavalry pickets in front of the position to be occupied by General Wise near Chaffin's Bluff. General Wise's command is to be established for the protection of the batteries at Chaffin's Bluff, and will be drawn closer to that point than he now is. The general wishes that position covered by cavalry pickets, with instructions to report any movement of the enemy bearing in that direction to General Wise. Major Stevens, Engineers, has been directed to designate General Wise's line of defense. This will guide you in the location of your pickets.

The general also desires that you will direct all scouts or pickets to report to the nearest brigadier-general anything of importance that may occur in his vicinity.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 17, 1862.

Maj. W. H. STEVENS,
Chief of Engineers, Department of Northern Virginia:

MAJOR: I am directed by General Lee to inform you that he desires you to have indicated to General Wise his line of defense in the neighborhood of Chaffin's Bluff as soon as possible, that he may proceed at once with the necessary works to secure his position. He wishes you to send an engineer to lay out the works and establish points for batteries, &c.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 30. HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING, *Thorne's House, June* 17, 1862.

I. Lieut. Col. Stephen D. Lee is appointed acting chief of artillery for this command, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

All companies not attached to brigades will report to Colonel Lee at once.

By command of Major-General Magruder:

HENRY BRYAN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, June 18, 1862.

Maj. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Commanding, &c., Goldsborough, N. C.:

GENERAL: By information received direct from Norfolk it is ascertained that at a "council of war," held at Fort Monroe a short time since, General McClellan expressed an inability to take Richmond without the co-operation of General Burnside, and that the force of the latter should advance by way of James River, landing and taking the batteries at Drewry's Bluff in rear, the gunboats being unable to reduce them. It is also ascertained that General Burnside has re-enforced McClellan with 14,000 men. This is reported from several different sources; in one instance the language is, "embarked at Norfolk with 14,000 men" and proceeded to join McClellan. It may be that his troops were transported to Norfolk through the canal. All reports, however, agree that he has formed a junction with the army under McClellan. In event of Burnside's ascending James River it will be necessary for you to oppose him with your whole force, and it was with this view that I desired you to concentrate at or near Petersburg, so as to have your command available to move speedily to the threatened point.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
June 18, 1862.

Col. STEPHEN D. LEE:

SIR: If an attack is made on the position in front or in force upon the pickets, place such batteries of light artillery in the field as you may think best. This will be your warrant to call on General McLaws or General Jones for such infantry supports as you may think are needed. You will be guided in this case by the nearness of the infantry to the scene of action.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

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HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's House, Va., June 18, 1862.

Major-General McLAWS:

SIR: I send you the within note* through Colonel Chilton from General Longstreet. I send the Charles City Cavalry to report to you if the pickets are attacked at James Garnett's. General Jones has been ordered to support them with Toombs' brigade. You are authorized to use the cavalry sent to you, with such infantry as you may think proper (I would suggest at least a brigade), to feel and observe the enemy on the right of the Nine-mile road. You need not wait for the cavalry, as they are now on other duty near here. Keep your troops under arms and ready in the mean time. The cavalry will be sent as soon as possible. Take command until I arrive if there is anything serious. Though quite sick, I will be on the ground if anything of importance takes place.

Respectfully,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding Right Wing.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's House, Va., June 18, 1862.

Brig. Gen. D. R. JONES:

GENERAL: Should the pickets at Garnett's be seriously attacked you will support them by Brigadier-General Toombs' brigade, and if they are not in convenient positions you will send two regiments of Anderson's brigade at once to their support until Toombs' brigade can get into position so as to support them. If this is not enough, let Major-General McLaws know, so that he may order to their support Griffith's brigade. Toombs' brigade, however, should precede Griffith's brigade into the fight.

Respectfully,

J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Commanding Right Wing.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 140. } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., June 18, 1862.

* * * * * * *

XII. Brig. Gen. G. J. Rains assigned to the charge of the submarine defenses of the James and Appomattox Rivers. General commanding troops on the said rivers will assist him in his operations as far as practicable by details of men or otherwise, and the Engineer and Ordnance Bureaus and the Quartermaster-General will also furnish him assistance.

XIII. Brig. Gen. William N. Pendleton, Col. T. S. Rhett, and Lieut. Col. J. C. Shields will constitute a board to inquire into the efficiency of the unattached heavy artillery companies in the works around Richmond and the competency and qualifications of the officers; to report which of the said companies should be retained and organized into battalions, and which of the said companies should be disbanded and incorporated into the retained companies aforesaid; and also to in-

* Not found.

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quire and to report which of the light artillery companies in the said works and around Richmond, awaiting the completion of their equipment, shall be retained and equipped, and which shall be disbanded and incorporated into existing light artillery companies.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 137. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June* 18, 1862.

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II. The battalion of Washington Artillery is assigned to duty with Maj. Gen. J. Longstreet, to whom Colonel Walton, in command of the battalion, will report for duty. Brigadier-General Pendleton will assign a battery to serve with General Toombs' brigade.

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By command of General Lee.

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 19, 1862.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

SIR: I have directed General Blanchard's release from duty and recommended General Huger's orders to be issued from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office. I think it probable that the 60,000 men are intended for McClellan, and will be drawn from Halleck. Bragg ought immediately to advance. General E. K. Smith writes that Halleck is sending re-enforcements to East Tennessee.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 21, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Your note is received. Wilcox's position is, as you say, the strong position on the C. C. road, and ought to be fixed; but I have not the means to work with at present. General Huger has charge of the front line, and the suggestions that you make have been made to him repeatedly, and his promise to arrange his right has been made.

Skirmishing is going on in front at this time—the enemy trying to get a new position to fortify. Be ready in case you hear anything brisk in front or if you get a message from Huger, who is in front, and give me timely notice of any move. Relieve Ripley with another brigade whenever you think proper, but order the men not to load their guns until it is necessary.

Most respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

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HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, Va., June 21, 1862.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have been informed by Colonel Gorgas that the railroad battery will be ready for service to-morrow. Inasmuch as this battery has been constructed by the Navy, I would be pleased if you assigned an officer and a requisite number of men to take charge of and operate it. If you desire to do so, I request that you will designate the officer at once, as I wish to place the battery in position to-morrow. I am very much obliged to you for your kindness as well as promptness in its construction.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS, *June 21, 1862.*

Maj. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Comdg. Department between James and Cape Fear Rivers:

GENERAL: I congratulate you upon the arrival of your troops at Petersburg. Your command has been extended from the Cape Fear to the James River, and I desire you to take charge of the military operations in the whole department. Your headquarters will be established where most convenient. It is difficult to say what may be the course adopted by the enemy, but I think he will endeavor to break up the batteries at Drewry's and Chaffin's Bluffs to let his gunboats up to Richmond. Should he attempt this on the south side, you will of course resist it with all the force in your department. Should he attempt it on the north side of James River, you may be able to re-enforce the army on this side.

I am very anxious to get the assistance of Ransom's brigade in the operations of next week. Could you prepare it, and should there be no movement on your side of the river send it, with light baggage, for temporary service. I will telegraph you as to the time, and think it will be about Tuesday. It can either come by rail, or, if you place it near Drewry's, it might cross on the pontoon bridge.

I have explained to General Ransom Burnside's movements and probable intentions, and have requested him to give you the information.

I am, with high esteem, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, near Richmond, Va., June 21, 1862.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN,
Commanding, &c., Tallahassee, Fla.:

GENERAL: Your letter of May 21,* including return of troops in Florida, to Adjutant-General Cooper has been referred to General Lee, who directs me to say that he is much pleased at the number of troops which you have organized in Florida, and to express his regret that

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*Not found.

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they are not all armed, so that he might at once follow your suggestion and withdraw all save the number which you deem sufficient for the defense of Florida. In their present condition, however, after deducting the 2,500 which you think should be retained, there will be left but one regiment of armed men. If this can be spared he would like to have it here. More than this he does not think can be spared, nor does he think it would be safe to remove you from your present department, where you have already rendered such efficient service.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA.,
June 21, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Four rifle field pieces of French's battery and a company of the Third Arkansas Volunteers, as sharpshooters, all under command of Colonel Manning, had a spirited affair yesterday afternoon with one of the enemy's side-wheel wooden gunboats. One of her guns was dismounted and her crew of sharpshooters driven below with some loss. She made her escape with one wheel. This took place at Gill's Bluff, 10 miles below.

J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 140. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 21, 1862.

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VII. The department of Maj. Gen. T. H. Holmes is hereby extended to the south bank of the James River, including Drewry's Bluff. He will establish his headquarters at Petersburg or at such other point as he may deem more convenient.

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By command of General Lee:

[A. P. MASON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 70. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Dabb's House, June 21, 1862.

Lieut. Col. James L. Corley is hereby announced as chief of the quartermaster's department of this army, and is charged with the control and direction of all of its operations. All quartermasters connected with the army excepting those of brigades and regiments will report with whom they are serving and the condition of their respective charges.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's, Va., June 22, 1862.

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: In answer to your inquiry as to the position of the several brigades of Major-General McLaws, I have the honor to state that they occupy a line from the small fort in the field on the left of the Nine-mile road to the railroad, Griffith's brigade occupying that portion of it on the left of the road (a few hundred yards in extent) by my order, so as to afford relief necessary to Toombs' brigade, so long in front. The other three brigades of Major-General McLaws' division occupy the line from the Nine-mile road to the railroad. As the relative positions of these three last-mentioned brigades are changed at the discretion of Major-General McLaws I have sent your letter to him for information, so as to enable me to give you the precise statement as to them.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FREDERICK'S HALL, *June 22, 1862.*

General R. S. EWELL:

Move all your command to-morrow morning to Beaver Dam, with Cunningham's, if cars enough. Your baggage train must reach Beaver Dam to-morrow night.

Acknowledge receipt at once.

By order:

R. L. DABNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 71. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *June 22, 1862.*

1. Under present disposition of troops Maj. Gen. J. Longstreet is charged with the military movements and operations of his own and Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill's division. Maj. Gen. J. B. Magruder those of his division, to be composed of Cobb's and Griffith's brigades and the divisions commanded by Maj. Gen. McLaws and Brig. Gen. D. R. Jones—Semmes' and Kershaw's brigades constituting McLaws' division and Toombs' and Anderson's, Jones'. All division commanders, respectively, will regulate the internal arrangements of each with regard to supplies and details, making their requisitions upon the proper departments.

2. No leaves of absence will be granted to officers except from these headquarters.

3. By arrangement with the enemy, medical officers of either side will be regarded as non-combatants, and free from capture when engaged in attending the sick or wounded.

4. The artillery of the army is necessarily so extensively diffused that it becomes essential for its due efficiency there should be in its administration rigid system.

5. The chief of artillery in each division will have charge of all the batteries thereto attached, whether acting with brigades or held in reserve. A battery duly assigned to a brigade will, until properly re-

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lieved, report to and be controlled by the brigade commander. It must also, however, report to and be inspected by the division chief of artillery, as he may require. When a brigade battery needs relief it will, when practicable, be made to change places with one of those belonging to the division reserve. Should this be impracticable, application, authorized by the division commander, must be made to the army chief of artillery for temporary relief from the general reserve.

6. The army chief of artillery will have general charge of that branch of service and special direction of the general reserve. He will, under instructions from the commanding general, see that the batteries are kept in as efficient a condition as practicable, and so distributed as to promise the best results. To this end he will require from the several chiefs of artillery weekly returns, exhibiting the condition of each battery and where it is serving. He will also make to the commanding general a tri-monthly report of his entire charge.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 23, 1862.

Maj. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Unless some movement of the enemy on the south side of James River is apparent or threatening against your position at Petersburg or the battery at Drewry's Bluff, which will require the aid of General Ransom's brigade to oppose, I desire you to send him, with the effective force of his brigade, to report to me on Wednesday morning next, 25th instant, prepared for service. He will come with light baggage and one day's cooked provisions in haversacks. You can retain the artillery attached to his brigade if you think proper. The best route will be by cars to Richmond, where at the railroad depot he will receive orders. He will inform me by telegraph at what time he leaves Petersburg. I understand that a part of the brigade is at Drewry's Bluff which is embraced in this order. These latter can come by rail, steamer, or march across the pontoon bridge, as you may deem best.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

JUNE 23, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: I will send at once the papers to General Mahone; I believe the regiments referred to in the papers are of Mahone's command. The firing last night was in front of Mahone, the particulars of which I have not learned. He wrote me about 1.30 a. m. (this morning), asking that I permit one of my regiments to remain to-day on picket with him. In his note he stated that he had nothing important to communicate, and as the firing was about 9 o'clock last night, I presume it was some false alarm or absurd firing among the pickets.

I rode down the road little before sundown yesterday evening; did not see Mahone; he was out with or in front of his pickets. I was told

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by some of the men and officers that the enemy had been seen to cross the road in front of them, going in direction of the Darby or Central road. Some said that they saw as much as three regiments of infantry, but I could not, from their reports to me, satisfy myself that they had seen more than 15 or 20 infantry; they said that they saw officers on foot. I got spades and picks about 10 o'clock last night; will commence work early to-morrow morning, and have so many at work that they will accomplish a good deal, I hope.

Truly, &c.,

C. M. WILCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Army before Richmond, Va., June 23, 1862.

GOV. JOHN LETCHER,
Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I send you herewith a statement of the condition of the Virginia forces belonging to this command. In bringing this subject to your attention my object is to induce you to take some active measures, if any such lie within your power, to recruit their ranks. Such a course is pre-eminently required for the good of the service, since any addition to our army will without doubt be of much more avail when incorporated in regiments, which, like many of these, have already been through a most trying discipline of fire, than when joined with men as fresh as the new recruits themselves. You will observe that my command embraces twenty-three Virginia regiments, one battalion, and seventeen batteries. According to the provisions of the law of conscription these various organizations should contain something like 32,000 men, yet they number on their rolls, as appears from the list I inclose, less than 20,000, and of this number over 7,000 are at times absent from their posts. That is to say, while I ought to command 32,000 Virginians, I do not really command 13,000. I shall cause the officer in command of the various batteries and battalions to forward their muster rolls, as required by law, to the commandants of the camps of instruction; but I am not without strong hope that your interest in these troops, who have done so much to distinguish the valor of Virginians, may incite you also to co-operate with me in the effort to procure the desired reenforcements.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, Va., June 28, 1862.

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of War, with the earnest hope that he may have the power speedily to fill up the regiments in this division.

By order of the Governor:

S. BASSETT FRENCH,
Aide-de-Camp.

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[Inclosure.]

Strength of the Virginia Batteries of Artillery in the Right Wing, Army before Richmond, Va.

Batteries.	Present.	Absent.
Carter's battery, King William Artillery	130	34
Nelson's battery, Hanover Artillery	86	38
Hardaway's battery, Jeff. Davis Artillery [Alabama batteries]	110	22
Clark's battery, Virginia Artillery	64	25
Poyton's battery, Orange Artillery	69	4
Huger's battery, Virginia Artillery	79	6
Grimes' battery, Virginia Artillery	98	4
Moseley's battery, Richmond Howitzers	74	30
Turner's battery, Richmond Howitzers	72	26
Rogers' battery, Loudoun Artillery	73	1
Stribling's battery, Fauquier Artillery	66	23
Dearing's battery, Lynchburg Artillery	52	46
Macon's battery, Richmond Fayette Artillery	80	52
Anderson's battery, Virginia Artillery	70	17
Coke's battery, Virginia Artillery	50	14
Watson's battery, Virginia Artillery	57	47
Chapman's battery, Dixie Artillery	75	6
Total	1,205	395

Strength of the Virginia forces in the Right Wing, Army before Richmond, Va.

Regiments.	Present.	Absent.
4th Regiment Heavy Artillery, acting as infantry	466	243
26th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	513	257
46th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	330	242
6th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	673	307
12th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	601	245
16th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	516	185
41st Regiment Virginia Volunteers	564	253
49th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	332	370
9th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	435	188
14th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	449	261
38th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	389	451
53d Regiment Virginia Volunteers	468	344
1st Regiment Virginia Volunteers, about	100	200
7th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	417	272
8th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	359	177
11th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	414	475
17th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	392	298
18th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	437	333
19th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	451	316
24th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	455	488
28th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	466	291
56th Regiment Virginia Volunteers	466	290
3d Regiment Virginia Volunteers	484	232
5th Battalion Virginia Volunteers	213	146
Total	11,3801	6,813

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE AND HYDROGRAPHY,
Richmond, Va., June 24, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Comdg., &c., Hdqrs. near Richmond, Va.:*

GENERAL: The railroad-iron plated battery designed by Lieut. John M. Brooke, C. S. Navy, has been completed. The gun, a rifled and banded 32-pounder of 57 cwt., has been mounted and equipped by Lieut. R. D. Minor, C. S. Navy, and with 200 rounds of ammunition, including 15-inch solid bolt shot, is now ready to be transferred to the Army.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE MINOR,
Commander, in charge.

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[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 24, 1862.

Respectfully referred to Major E. P. Alexander, chief of ordnance. General commanding desires that you will arrange to get this battery down to-night or early in the morning, and get an officer and detail to man it. It may be that General Huger can give you an instructed party; otherwise it must come from Colonel Rhett.

By order of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. HEADQUARTERS LIGHT DIVISION,
June 24, 1862.

Brigade commanders will direct their commissaries to-morrow (Wednesday) to draw two days' rations (hard bread), to be issued, cooked, and put in haversacks.

Each brigadier will select one battery for service, the captain of which will provide himself with two days' forage, to be hauled in the company wagon. The remaining batteries will be left in position and those in reserve put in position.

Where it can be done, brigade commanders are directed to take with their batteries at least six teams of spare horses and drivers (from the remaining battery of the brigade).

No wagons will be taken along except one for each regiment and battery for ammunition and the wagons mentioned for forage.

Knapsacks will be left behind in camp with the sick—artillery as well as infantry—the men taking but one blanket.

The infirmary corps of two men and one non-commissioned officer from each company, the men without arms, under charge of a lieutenant from each regiment, will be detailed and ordered to report to regimental surgeons.

Brigade surgeons will call upon Surgeon Watson at 5 o'clock p. m. to-morrow at these headquarters for badges.

All men on extra or daily duty in and around the camps who can be possibly spared must take their place in ranks.

Brigade commanders are urged to see that their men are in good fighting condition.

These orders are precautionary and, as far as they can be, confidential. Orders of movement will be issued to-morrow evening.

A. P. HILL,
Major-General.

Acknowledge receipt.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 145. ADJT. AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., June 24, 1862.

* * * * * * *

XII. The light artillery battalions of Major Boggs and Major Moore will report for duty to Lieut. Col. J. C. Shields.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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HEADQUARTERS, *June* 26, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have directed General Holmes to be prepared to move his whole movable force to the support of the defenses around Richmond if called for. General J. G. Walker, at Drewry's Bluff, has been specially instructed also to the same effect. General Wise's brigade is retained in observation at Chaffin's Bluff. Colonel Rhett has been arming and preparing the troops in the batteries for an emergency in the field. Colonel Ransom's regiment is already with General Huger. I request that you will give any orders that the emergency may require. I shall be found on the Mechanicsville turnpike, or farther, according to events. I sent to President a copy of the general order of the day. I have not time to make another copy. He has also a copy of the signals to be given from the balloon.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS OF DIVISION,
ADVANCED LINES, WILLIAMSBURG ROAD,
June 26, 1862—10 p. m.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I send inclosed a letter just received from General Lee. I am holding my lines, but my men are much exhausted by yesterday's and last night's work. If there is no prospect of an attack at Drewry's I beg you will send the troops from there to re-enforce this line; at all events please send me the two regiments of my division now there, the Fifty-seventh Virginia and Thirty-second North Carolina, left at Drewry's Bluff. My force here is, as you know, not sufficient to stand long an attack in force, and I have no supports.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. B. HUGER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Hold your trenches to-night at the point of the bayonet if necessary. If you discover demonstrations against you and do not feel strong enough, call upon Colonel Rhett for his battalion of infantry armed with muskets. Should there be no indications of the enemy on James River, call on General Wise for such as he can spare. If the enemy should press you and this does not give you force enough, send to the Secretary of War to order Walker's brigade from Drewry's Bluff to join you, if only for to-night.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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[Indorsement.]

WILLIAMS' FARM, VA.—8.30 p. m.

General HUGER,
Commanding in Advance:

The officer who brought this from General Magruder's headquarters says Jackson has possession of Mechanicsville. I do not know where Colonel Rhett's headquarters are. I will endeavor to find them, however, and inform him he may be called upon. Would it not be well to advise the Secretary of War at once with regard to Walker's brigade, so as to have it ready to move immediately if necessary?

S. S. A. [ANDERSON.]

DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA.,
June 26, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH:

My pickets and signal officer at the mouth of Appomattox report gunboats and transports, three of each, ascending that river at dark this evening.

J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 26, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

Leave one regiment well commanded at Drewry's Bluff and march with the rest of your force to re-enforce General Huger. Move by the pontoon bridge if you have guides, and warn him of your march by couriers, to avoid accident in the dark. I will direct General Holmes to look out for Drewry's Bluff during your absence.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 26, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

Enemy are landing at Bermuda Hundred. If they are in large force I can't resist them till they reach Drewry's Bluff.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Major-General.

[Indorsement No. 1.]

I telegraphed to General Walker to suspend his movement until he learned the character of that on the part of the enemy; but unless their landing was in force that he must re-enforce General Huger.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

[Indorsement No. 2.]

Action approved. If it should prove that the report is correct, we must try to re-enforce Huger in the morning by sending such force as we have in the city and the supports of batteries.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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RICHMOND, VA., *June* 26, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

Since my telegram to you I have received a telegram from General Holmes, announcing that the enemy are landing at Bermuda Hundred. Suspend the execution of my order until you learn the character of this movement. Unless the landing is in force, you may still re-enforce General Huger, who will probably need it.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA.,
June 26, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

I have received your three telegrams. Instead of the enemy's landing at Bermuda Hundred, his gunboats and transports have gone up the Appomattox. I shall put my command *en route* to join General Huger at once.

J. G. WALKER,
Brigadier-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 26, 1862.

Maj. Gen. T. H. HOLMES, *Petersburg, Va.:*

The battle is progressing and we need all the re-enforcements we can get. I have ordered General Walker to leave one regiment at Drewry's Bluff, and to join General Huger on the Williamsburg road with the rest of his command. Move with all your available force. If you think Drewry's Bluff needs re-enforcing send troops there, and either come here with the rest or cross at the pontoon bridge and join our right, informing General Huger of your approach. Let me know which route you take.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 26, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: The headquarters of the commanding general will be on the Mechanicsville turnpike.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

THURSDAY MORNING, [*June* 26, 1862.]

General BRANCH:

Wait for Jackson's notification before you move unless I send other orders.

Yours,

A. P. HILL,
Major-General.

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MERRY OAKS, *June* 26, 1862—9 a. m.
(Received 10 a. m.)

Brigadier-General BRANCH:

GENERAL: The head of my column is crossing the Central Railroad
Your most obedient servant,

T. J. JACKSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT BRIGADE,
[*June* 26], 1862—9.30 p. m.

General Hill left for Mechanicsville about an hour since, and should. any movements on the part of the enemy be observed of sufficient importance please report the fact and I will send for him. He may return in the course of two hours.

Please say to your assistant adjutant-general that I do not know the dates of commission of the other brigadier-generals of this division, but will get them for him as soon as possible.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. C. MORGAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JUNE 26, 1862—10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. L. O'B. BRANCH:

GENERAL: The head of my column is nearly 2 miles from where it crossed the Central Railroad, and is marching on the Hanover Court-House and Mechanicsville turnpike.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

T. J. JACKSON,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 27, 1862.

Maj. Gen. LAFAYETTE MCLAWS,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general wishes you to adopt measures to assemble together the Second Louisiana Brigade with as little delay as possible, to be prepared for immediate field duty, under instructions to be received from Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 27, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. G. WALKER,
Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

Have you moved yet? From General Holmes' telegram this morning the force of the enemy appears to be small. You had better move at once, leaving, if you think proper, 1,500 men. Has General Holmes

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communicated with you or re-enforced you? Keep him advised of your movement.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

DREWRY'S BLUFF, VA.,
June 27, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH:

The enemy's gunboats drove off our battery and pickets at Point of Rocks. They landed a small force this morning at City Point. I have sent a regiment to defend the barricade below Petersburg, and I think one had better be sent back to have an eye on City Point, which will leave two disposable for Drewry's Bluff or the field, as you think best. Please answer.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 27, 1862.

Maj. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Petersburg, Va.:

I don't understand what you mean by "sending a regiment back." Do you mean to send it to Drewry's Bluff? We wish all the force we can get in the field, and it will not be advisable to send troops away from Drewry's Bluff. From that post they can readily re-enforce General Huger. You had better dispose of your force at Petersburg for the protection of the road from City Point.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
June 27, 1862—1.15 p. m.

Major-General McLAWS:

GENERAL: Major-General Magruder instructs me to inform you that he only ordered that there should be two regiments in your front; one which you yourself placed there, if he is correctly informed, and one ordered by himself. Since leaving you this morning one of these (of Kershaw's brigade) it was desirable should be on the left of the swamp. Upon you representing to Major Brent that this would weaken you too much, I sent you a written communication telling you to retain the regiment in the position previously agreed upon. The protest which you sent against General Magruder's attempt to execute General Lee's orders will be forwarded to that officer.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
June 27, 1862—5.30 p. m.

Major-General McLAWS:

SIR: I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to direct you to

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cause the troops in your advance to push forward (in accordance with previous orders) and drive in the enemy's pickets at once, and to push forward as far as can be carried consistently with the safety of your lines.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Similar instructions given Generals Jones and Griffith.

PETERSBURG, VA.,
June 27, 1862—4 p. m.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH:

The enemy have shelled out all my signal stations on the Appomattox River below Clifton. The obstructions—eleven gunboats, two iron-clads, the Monitor and Galena—are now in the Appomattox, and have full control of the river up to Port Walthall. Two small gunboats are in the Appomattox channel off Port Walthall. No transports are with them. A party of about 100 landed at Hodges', Prince George side, in small boats from the steamers. No landing up to this hour on the Chesterfield side. They, the enemy, are evidently feeling their way up toward our obstructions. I have reported up to 1 p. m. by vedette to General Holmes.

Your obedient servant,

J. F. MILLIGAN,
Captain and Signal Officer, Department of the Appomattox.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 27, 1862.

His Excellency President DAVIS:

Mr. PRESIDENT: Profoundly grateful to Almighty God for the signal victory granted to us, it is my pleasing task to announce to you the success achieved by this army to-day. The enemy was this morning driven from his strong position behind Beaver Dam Creek and pursued to that behind Powhite Creek, and finally, after a severe contest of five hours, entirely repulsed from the field. Night put an end to the contest. I grieve to state that our loss in officers and men is great. We sleep on the field, and shall renew the contest in the morning.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[FRIDAY MORNING, *June* 27, 1862.]

General BRANCH:

General Gregg has been ordered to cross Beaver Creek. As soon as you see any movements on the right or left or hear heavy musket firing, advance also and storm the creek.

A. P. HILL,
Major-General.

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PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 28, 1862.

The SECRETARY OF WAR:

I shall go at once to Drewry's Bluff, where there are three regiments and three batteries. Please let instructions meet me there by 12 o'clock to-night.

TH. H. HOLMES,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 28, 1862.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy's gunboats have disappeared from neighborhood of Petersburg. Do you want me with Daniel's brigade?

TH. H. HOLMES,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

It would seem best for General Holmes to move up with his force to the bridge at Warwick's Bar; or if there be any difficulty about transportation from railroad to bridge he had better come to Richmond.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

PETERSBURG, VA.,
June 28, 1862—9 a. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

The enemy have suddenly and unexpectedly left the Appomattox. Just received the following dispatch by signals from Cobb's Station, below Port Walthall, viz:

The gunboats opposite our station aground set on fire and abandoned by the enemy. Monitor has gone; all the gunboats are following toward City Point.

Your obedient servant,

J. F. MILLIGAN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. SEVENTH SOUTH CAROLINA REGIMENT,
June 28, 1862.

Capt. C. R. HOLMES,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: In reply to the inquiry sent me from brigade headquarters relative to the direction taken by my regiment yesterday in the "feel," as ordered by the general, I beg leave to state that the order issued to Colonel Nance and myself to "feel" the enemy in the morning was countermanded just about the time we were prepared to advance. I was then ordered to report to Colonel Barksdale, on the Nine-mile road, as a support to him in the event of his being driven back by the enemy. I did so, and had scarcely taken my position as his support when orders came again that "the regiment from Kershaw's brigade must form on the right of Barksdale's regiment and advance in line with Barksdale's." We formed in line of battle, prepared to advance, when another order came that we should advance in just such a line as would have thrown

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us parallel to the Nine-mile road, and evidently in a direction perpendicular to the line of battle as formed by General Anderson on our left. Colonel Barksdale then formed his line of battle at his own discretion, perpendicular, or nearly so, to the Nine-mile road, and parallel to our line of pickets. I formed immediately upon his right, and we were again about advancing (much time having been consumed in determining our proper line of battle) when Colonel Henagan appeared on the field and required me to report to him on the position which had been assigned me in the morning when ordered to feel the enemy in conjunction with Colonel Nance. Some consultation with Colonel Barksdale was then necessary, because the direction in which Colonel Henagan and myself would presently advance would be at right angles almost to the line of advance as established by Colonel Barksdale, his line being a prolongation of Gen ral Anderson's line. These irregularities in the various lines of battle can be explained in a few words by assuming points of the compass. General Anderson's pickets are stationed in a line running perhaps northeast and southwest. The picket line in front of Colonel Barksdale runs more northward and southward, and just up on his right changes again almost due south. In front of the left of my regiment, as finally drawn up in line of battle with Colonel Henagan, the line of pickets runs east and west, while in front of Colonel Henagan's right the line was nearly north and south; consequently the line of advance formed by Colonel Henagan and myself was nearly north and south, while that of Colonel Barksdale was perhaps northeast and southwest. I was on the left of Colonel Henagan, and my left about 300 yards from Colonel Barksdale's right. Had Colonel Barksdale's force and our force advanced to the redoubt in front of Colonel Henagan's advancing line, we might perhaps have met the enemy on the west side of the redoubt, while Colonel Barksdale would have passed to the eastward entirely, our point of convergence being perhaps beyond the enemy's breastworks.

I trust I have made myself intelligible.

Respectfully,

D. WYATT AIKEN,
Colonel Seventh South Carolina Regiment.

CAMP HOVEE, HDQRS. EIGHTH S. C. REGIMENT,
June 28, 1862.

General KERSHAW:

In obedience to orders I proceeded on yesterday, 27th instant, to the rear of General Semmes' picket. Not finding Colonel Aiken's regiment there, as I had supposed—I was informed that he had reported to Colonel Barksdale, in rear of General Cobb's picket—I ordered his regiment to march to the rear of General Semmes' picket, and placing his right about the center of the picket, I then formed my regiment on the right of his, my right resting in about 200 yards of the railroad. I then deployed the rifle companies of the two regiments in front, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Bland. I then gave the order to advance. The skirmishers had not advanced more than 80 yards from our picket line before they were fired upon by the enemy, which was returned promptly. We continued to advance, driving the enemy before us. We halted in about 100 yards of the open field in front of us, deeming it imprudent to advance any farther on account of the enemy throwing quantities of grape, canister, and shell in the woods. One of their batteries appeared to be near the

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railroad, which would have swept my ranks had I proceeded farther. The enemy appeared to be in considerable force. I could hear them cheering down the lines, though but few were seen by us. Colonel Aiken had 1 man killed and 3 wounded. No casualties in the Eighth.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. HENAGAN,
Colonel Eighth South Carolina Regiment.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
June 29, 1862.

Major-General MAGRUDER:

SIR: My line is formed to the left and somewhat to the front of General Cobb. The enemy seem to be in large force in front of my right, and are or have moved a little to their right. I do not think it prudent for me to attack him with my small force unless there be a simultaneous attack all along our lines. I will keep a good lookout on my left. I had hoped that Jackson would have co-operated with me on my left, but he sends me word that he cannot, as he has other important duty to perform.

Respectfully, &c.,

D. R. JONES,
Brigadier-General.

PETERSBURG, VA.,
June 30, 1862—9 a. m.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

I have just received the following dispatch from Rhea's Farm Station, opposite City Point, viz:

Two gunboats gone down James River; one gunboat off City Point; six gunboats off Turkey Island, above City Point; heavy firing going on up the James River; one gunboat hoisted a black flag.

J. F. MILLIGAN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

PETERSBURG, VA.,
June 30, 1862—6.30 p. m.

GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Just returned from Blanfield Signal Station. While there four large steamers left Carter's Wharf, loaded with the enemy, and gone down the river. Six schooners were near the wharf covered with canvas, apparently for sick [and] wounded. Two river steamers arrived at City Point towing a schooner and a brig. There are nine schooners, one brig, and five steamers now off City Point. The Monitor and Galena, with four other gunboats, are off Carter's Wharf, shelling the woods, to cover the retreating forces of the enemy; evidently a lively engagement is going on in the neighborhood, and the enemy appear very busy about City Point and Carter's Wharf embarking their forces. The first two transports that came up landed a small force at Carter's Wharf.

Your obedient servant,

J. F. MILLIGAN,
Captain and Signal Officer, Department of the Appomattox.

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PETERSBURG, VA., *June* 30, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

The enemy did not effect a landing at Carter's Wharf with the troops that came up this evening. They have been driven down James River near Turkey Island, opposite City Point. Cannonading is incessant. All the gunboats have dropped down the river from Carter's Wharf to Turkey Island.

Your obedient servant,

J. F. MILLIGAN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

BERMUDA HUNDRED,
Via Drewry's Bluff, Va., June 30, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

Large numbers of Yankees are on the river shore at Shirley, Colonel Carter's place. They seem to be encamped just above his house. Many are now bathing in the river. The gunboats and transports seem to be taking the troops off as fast as possible. Very few of them here, though; hence they can only take off the wounded.

THOMAS E. UPSHAW,
Captain Randolph Dragoons.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 30, 1862.

General LEADBETTER,
Chattanooga, Tenn.:

After two days' fighting McClellan abandoned his camp and such stores as he could not destroy and is in full retreat, closely pursued by General Lee. Announce this to your army, and tell them that we hope soon to come to their assistance. I have ordered every regiment and battalion in Georgia not needed on the coast to proceed at once to Chattanooga. As they are new organizations, I am uncertain as to their number and condition. I am sending arms to you as fast as possible. Is it safe to send them through East Tennessee? Answer at once. General Heth is on his way to Chattanooga, but we wish you to remain, for the purpose of giving him all the assistance in your power. If you can defend your position we may be able to place Buell in a critical situation.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 30, 1862.

General E. KIRBY SMITH,
Knoxville, Tenn.:

I am happy to inform you that McClellan was attacked by our army, under General Lee, on the 26th instant, and after two days' fighting is in full retreat, abandoning his camp and such stores as he could not destroy. Our army is in close pursuit. I have ordered to Chattanooga

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every regiment and battalion in Georgia in a condition to march, and Hilliard's Legion from Montgomery, which cannot bring more than 850 men. I have also ordered the arms called for by you to be forwarded as speedily as possible. Hilliard's Legion and the Georgia troops are unarmed. Did they enter into your calculation in making your call? Is it safe to send arms through East Tennessee or shall they go to Chattanooga via Atlanta? Answer by telegraph. Knowing you to be sick, I expect an answer from your staff and not from yourself.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 30, 1862.

General BRAGG,
Commanding the Army of Mississippi, Tupelo, via Mobile:

After two days' fighting the enemy abandoned their camp, leaving their tents standing and a large quantity of stores which they had not time to destroy, and are in full retreat, closely pursued by our army under General Lee. It is supposed that their object is to reach some point on the James River, where, with the assistance of their gunboats, they may defend themselves until re-enforcements arrive. They are cut off from their base on the Pamunkey River, and all their depots on that river are destroyed. This state of things must bring this way large detachments from their Western army. Orders have been given, as we learn, for the transportation of 5,000 men a day on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Have you received my telegram about the staff officers of General Preston's corps? Answer by telegraph, as an officer is waiting here for the commissions.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *June* 30, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. C. PEMBERTON,
Charleston, S. C.:

Announce to your forces that after two days' fighting the enemy have abandoned their camp and are in full retreat, closely pursued by our army under General Lee. They attempted to destroy their stores, but left their tents standing and large quantities of them. Prisoners are rapidly coming in.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

ENGINEER BUREAU, *July* 1, 1862.

Capt. JOHN J. CLARKE,
Provisional Engineer Corps, C. S. Army:

CAPTAIN: There has been a good deal of confusion between the Army and Navy recently with regard to steamboats on the James River. Please select such boats as are required for your services if not claimed by the Navy Department, and hold them exclusively subject to your orders. Such as have been engaged on engineering work should be settled for by yourself. I also desire you to examine the

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pontoon bridge and inquire as to capacity and number of the employés, with a view to reducing the expenditures at that point.

Very respectfully, yours,

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief of Engineer Bureau.

ENGINEER BUREAU,
Richmond, Va., July 1, 1862.

Capt. JOHN J. CLARKE,
Provisional Engineer Corps, C. S. Army:

CAPTAIN: It is proposed to erect a battery of three guns on the Appomattox for its defense. These guns are one 10-inch columbiad and two long 32-pounders; this battery to be ultimately strengthened The Secretary of War desires you to proceed to the Appomattox and put yourself in communication with Captain Dimmock, who has been in charge for some time past, and will consult with you as to the location and construction of the battery.

Very respectfully, yours,

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief of Engineer Bureau.

PETERSBURG, VA., *July* 1, 1862.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General C. S. Army. Richmond, Va.:

GENERAL: In obedience to General Orders, No. 40, May 29, 1862, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, I beg leave to report the number and organization of the signal corps of this department and its general operations during the quarter ending June 30, 1862.

The corps which I command is composed of one company, organized by authority of the honorable Secretary of War upon recommendations of General Huger, commanding Department of Norfolk, February 22, 1862, and is composed of 1 captain, 3 lieutenants, and 114 non-commissioned officers and privates.

The company was mustered into service for the war in Norfolk, Va., on the 25th day of April, by Major Bradford, inspector general of the Department of Norfolk, with 73 men, rank and file, by special authority of the honorable Secretary of War. Since its organization 41 men have entered the corps by enlistments and transfers. My posts in the Department of Norfolk extended from Harden's Bluff, by the south side of James River, to headquarters in Norfolk; distance between posts varying from 2 miles to 7, according to the facilities for connection and view.

The posts on James River, as far down as Pig Point, fell back after our evacuation of our fortification at Harden's Bluff and Fort Boykin. After the evacuation of Mulberry Island the posts were used to pass the steamers up and down the river by private signals.

On the 10th of May the post at Sewell's Point came very near being cut off by the enemy. Our forces, leaving at 4 a. m., gave no notice to the Signal Corps of their movement. They never left their posts until 7 p. m., and then only when ordered to do so from headquarters in Norfolk.

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After our retreat from Norfolk and falling back upon this place I was ordered to report to the honorable Secretary of War for further orders by Maj. Gen. Benjamin Huger. I reported accordingly, and received verbal orders from the honorable Secretary of War to establish communication on the James River and Appomattox, which I have accordingly done, as follows: One post at Drewry's Bluff, communicating with Chaffin's Bluff, thence down the river to Gregory's farm, where there is a good view of the river for 15 miles. I found it impossible to get communication lower in consequence of the sinuous character of the river. The posts on the Appomattox are from Rhea's farm, on the western side of the Appomattox, to Blanfield, on the eastern side of the river; thence to Cobb's farm, between Point of Rocks and Port Walthall, on the western side of the river; thence to Clifton, on the same side of the river, at the obstructions, amid the fortifications covering them; thence to Old Blanford Church, near Petersburg; from thence to McIlwain's building, on Sycamore street, near the custom-house, the headquarters in Petersburg; making in all six stations between the mouth of the Appomattox and headquarters.

I have each post doubled, in order to transmit messages with the least possible delay. I can get communication with Rhea's farm, the lower post on the Appomattox, to headquarters, a distance of 15 miles, and pass through six posts, in twenty minutes. The river is exceedingly hard to communicate by, in consequence of its sinuous character and dense timber upon its banks.

On the 26th ultimo the posts at Rhea's farm, Blanfield, and Cobb's were shelled out by a fleet of gunboats, which ascended the river rather suddenly, but which returned on the 27th, after burning one of their vessels, which had grounded in the Appomattox channel.

The discipline of the corps is good, and the men drilled by sight and sound. All are sworn into secrecy, and apply themselves to their duty with commendable zeal. The men not being armed, I would most respectfully recommend to the honorable Secretary of War to arm them with army revolvers or light carbines, that they may have some means of protecting themselves in case of a sudden attack.

In addition to the men who are stationed at the several posts herein mentioned I keep a reserve at the Halfway Station, on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, with a complete outfit for any emergency or demand that circumstances may require. I have a complete and good outfit for fifteen posts, in addition to an outfit sent to Major Alexander for twelve posts.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

J. F. MILLIGAN,
Captain and Signal Officer, Department of the Appomattox.

[Indorsements.]

JULY 7, 1862.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Gorgas to know if the arms asked for on the third page of this letter can be conveniently supplied.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

JULY 10, 1862.

Respectfully returned. No pistols or carbines on hand. Shot-guns may be supplied perhaps.

J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance.

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HEADQUARTERS CENTRE,
Battle-field at Crew's Farm, Va., July 2, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: The enemy having now changed his front and being driven to a new line, on which (should he attempt further movements against Richmond) time indefinite in its duration will be required for the execution of his plans, I consider the period has arrived when I cannot with propriety ask the longer indulgence of the Government in respect to the order already assigning me to the command of the Trans-Mississippi Department. I have the honor, therefore, to announce my readiness to conform to the orders of the Government relative to my new position as soon as they may be communicated to me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. BANKHEAD MAGRUDER,
Major-General, &c.

SPECIAL FIELD ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VA., *July* 3, 1862.

I. Maj. Gen. J. B. Magruder, having been ordered upon special service in the West (temporarily suspended), will now proceed to carry out that order, [the] circumstances causing its suspension having been removed. He will report to the Secretary of War for further instructions.

II. Brig. Gen. D. R. Jones is assigned with his division to Major-General Longstreet's command, and will immediately proceed to join him.

III. Toombs' and Griffith's brigades, of Magruder's division, are assigned to duty with McLaws' division.

By command of General Lee:
R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dr. Poindexter's, July 4, 1862.

Major-General HILL:

GENERAL: I desire you to-day to continue the work of burying the dead, collecting the wounded and sending them to the hospitals, and gathering up all arms and other property left on the field.

I understand that many of the enemy's wounded of Monday's fight are still on the field; they must have suffered greatly, and every effort should be made to remove all of them where they will be comfortable.

The enemy's dead (particularly at the scene of Monday's fight) must be buried, and any prisoners that may be in your hands can be devoted to this work.

Lose no exertion to collect your command, and in every way prepare it for immediate service.

Send a strong detail, under efficient officers, and finish the work at once.

I shall proceed to join the advance of the army under General Longstreet, where you can communicate with me.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. E. LEE,
General.

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RICHMOND, VA., *July* 4, 1862.

Maj. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Drewry's Bluff, Va.:

Governor Clark telegraphs that General Martin, with 2,000 men, now at Kinston, can be spared. Order them on without delay. They had better come here.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *July* 4, 1862.

Lieut. Col. J. S. PRESTON,
Commanding Camp of Instruction, Columbia, S. C.:

Our losses here are so heavy and our necessities so great that the order directing conscripts to be sent to Charleston is suspended until the South Carolina regiments here are recruited. Send your conscripts here in parties of 100 or 200 as rapidly as you can get them. If necessary, send drill officers in charge of them.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *July* 4, 1862.

Maj. J. B. DORMAN, *Dublin Depot, Va.*,
Maj. P. MALLETT, *Raleigh, N. C.*,
Maj. JOHN DUNWODY, *Calhoun, via Dalton, Ga.:*

Heavy losses have been sustained in the recent operations before this city, and there are other operations of great importance now in progress which will still further exhaust our army. Recruits are much needed from your State You will therefore hasten the enrollment of conscripts as much as possible, and send the conscripts here in parties of 100 or 200 as rapidly as you can get them in. We have no time now to prepare them for the field as carefully as we wish.

Send them under charge of your drill officers if you cannot get officers detailed for the duty. They will be assigned here to their regiment if they have not already been assigned.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, *July* 5, 1862.

R. E. LEE, *General, &c.:*

GENERAL: I have this moment received yours of yesterday, with sketch of the position occupied by the enemy near to the mouth of Herring Creek.*

It is a hard necessity to be compelled to allow him time to recover from his discomfiture and to receive re-enforcements, but under the circumstances it must be regarded as necessary.

I fully concur with you as to the impropriety of exposing our brave and battle-thinned troops to the fire of the gunboats while attacking a force numerically superior and having the advantage of so strong a position as that held by the enemy.

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* Not found.

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If further reconnaissance should show ground to the north of the Charles City road, which commands the ridge on which that road is located, we might send to you at least the two heavy guns which are on traveling carriages, so as to enable you to open fire on the enemy's batteries from a point beyond the effective range of his navy guns, or if a diversion, by engaging the gunboats from the south side of James River, would afford you an opportunity to attack the enemy in his present position, that might be done by sending some of Holmes' batteries to open fire on the first passing vessel at a point below Herring Creek, so as to draw the fleet in that direction. To do this effectually would require powerful batteries, with strong supports.

General Holmes, whom I saw last night at his headquarters below Drewry's, expressed a wish to go down on the south side of James River and open fire on the enemy's encampment. His experience on the Potomac has perhaps led him to underrate gunboats. He has ordered General Martin to join him with two regiments from Kinston, and spoke of drawing one regiment from Wilmington.

The Secretary of War has called for men to fill up the vacancies in the ranks of your army, and every effort will be made to hasten them forward.

The quartermaster-general assures me that all practicable means are employed to repair the railroads, especially the Virginia Central.

My office work fell behind while I was in the field, but no public interest, I hope, was seriously affected.

I will direct Colonel Gorgas to send to you some burning shells, with the hope that you can use them against the enemy's encampments and perhaps his boats, or in the event of night operations they may serve to guide as well as to conceal your advance.

If there should be anything which you think would be more promptly or certainly executed by my personal attention you must not hesitate to ask for it.

Before closing I will renew my caution to you against personal exposure either in battle or reconnaissance. It is a duty to the cause we serve for the sake of which I reiterate the warning. Col. Custis Lee is much better.

Very respectfully and truly, your friend,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, *July* 5, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: Since mine to you by your courier I have received yours of this date.

I can realize the impossibility of obtaining exact information of the enemy's movements, especially as to the re-enforcements which he is receiving.

The entire confidence reposed in you would suffice to secure my sanction to your view of the propriety of withdrawing to a better position for your troops, but beyond this it seems important to guard against the possibility of an advance by the fresh troops of the enemy on the south side of James River. He commands the water up to our batteries, and thus necessitates on your part a retrograde movement. Should it become necessary to cross the river, you can be more readily supplied and the troops will have a more healthy location on Cornelius Creek,

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on the north side, and Falling Creek, on the south side, of James River. The bridge will furnish easy communication between the two. Of all this you are better able to judge than myself, and I would not be regarded as interfering with the free exercise of your discretion.

There is reason to believe that the enemy has withdrawn from the coast of South Carolina. In that event General Pemberton has been directed to leave garrisons of artillery in the forts which it is necessary to hold, and to bring the balance of his force to this quarter for operations in the field. In that case you will receive valuable re-enforcements from a source not anticipated.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *July* 5, 1862.

J. R. EDMUNDSON, Esq.,
News Ferry, Va.:

Present events have rendered the call more necessary by changing the point threatened and by rendering it possible, if the city is well fortified, to use the bulk of our army elsewhere. Without strong works here we shall be compelled to remain on the defensive.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

CAMP NEAR MALVERN HILL BATTLE-FIELD,
July 5, 1862.

The SURGEON-GENERAL:

SIR: I have heard from various sources that you have sent various communications to me. Not one has reached its destination. I have only seen orders for medical officers to report for duty in the field. I was delayed here in consequence of the great difficulty in removing our wounded to Richmond. When their removal was nearly accomplished General Lee ordered that I should give assistance to the Federal medical officers in concentrating their sick and wounded at some central point, where surgical aid could be more efficiently rendered and where provisions and other necessaries could be issued. I selected Savage Station, on the York Railroad, as the point for concentration. Of course there are many Federal wounded that cannot be moved yet, and as you are aware our transportation is very deficient. In all there must be nearly 30 Federal medical officers within our lines, and of course have required little or no surgical aid from us. They have, however, asked for food, and having been accustomed to such luxuries as coffee, tea, arrowroot, sago, jellies, &c., were disappointed in getting nothing but flour or hard bread and bacon.

The commissary has sent subsistence to different points designated for the purpose of distribution. Every variety of medical and hospital supplies, in very limited quantities, and a few imperfect sets of amputating instruments are in the possession of Surgeon Johnson, medical purveyor, which he retains for the use of the field infirmaries, and have been of immense value to us.

Having been assigned suddenly and unexpectedly to the onerous and responsible duties of medical director of this large army, without instructions of any kind and without knowledge of the previous orders

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and assignments of medical officers of an army already engaged in action, my own position, of course, has been embarrassing.

I would be thankful for duplicate of any order you have issued for my guidance. I have followed the army, and in every instance endeavored to have all necessary operations performed before sending the wounded to Richmond. Of course many must have been sent from the infirmaries without primary operations, but the pressing exigencies under which we labored rendered the removal of such cases necessary. I would respectfully request that the medical purveyor be instructed to forward, with as little delay as possible, the supplies required by Medical Purveyor Johnson, particularly such articles as opium, morphia, and chloroform, which will be indispensably necessary in the event of another battle.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. GUILD,
Surgeon, C. S. Army,
Medical Director, Department of Northern Virginia.

P. S.—We are encamped near the house of Mr. Poindexter to-night. Should the supplies be immediately forwarded, the courier who bears this will guide the supplies to us, or otherwise let them be sent to Mr. Crew's house, and all necessary instructions will be left to have them sent forward.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 5, [1862]—9 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. P. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Ordnance:

COLONEL: General Lee directs me to say that General Pendleton is absent, and he [does] not know who is in charge of the Reserve Artillery; he therefore desires that you will go at once and ascertain the condition of the Reserve Artillery, and have it all put in condition to move to Malvern Hill early to-morrow morning.

The artillery will be held in readiness to move; everything ready for active service, but you will not move the artillery without further orders from these headquarters. You will also see that your ordnance train is ready to move at the same time, if necessary. If the artillery is ordered down the general desires that you go with it.

Yours, &c.,

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Phillips' House, Va., July 6, 1862.

His Excellency President DAVIS,
Richmond, Va.:

Mr. PRESIDENT: From the conflicting and exaggerated reports of the movements of the enemy I conclude that he has been re-enforced, and there are besides indications that it may be his purpose to make a lodgment on the James River as a base for further operations. Seven

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large steamers were reported to have come up Wednesday, said to be of the large-size New York Sound steamers, crowded with soldiers; other steamers with troops are also reported to have arrived at Westover; many sail transports with supplies, some of which contained bales of hay on their decks. Steamers going back are also said to contain men, but they appear to be sick, wounded, and demoralized; do not exhibit themselves on the decks, &c. A large New York ferry-boat is also reported at the Westover Landing, where wharves have been prepared by means of their pontoon bridges. This boat may be nothing more than any other transport, but it would prove very convenient should he meditate a transfer of his troops to the other side of the river. The great obstacle to operations here is the presence of the enemy's gunboats, which protect our approaches to him, and should we even force him from his positions on his land front, would prevent us from reaping any of the fruits of victory and expose our men to great destruction. These considerations induce the opinion that it may be better to leave a small, light force with the cavalry here and retire the army near Richmond, where it can be better refreshed and strengthened, and be prepared for a renewal of the contest, which must take place at some quarter soon. I beg that you will take every practicable means to re-enforce our ranks, which are much reduced, and which will require to be strengthened to their full extent to be able to compete with the invigorated force of the enemy. I inclose a report from Captain Wingfield, stationed on the opposite side of the river,* which corroborates the reports that I have received from this side.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 144. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Drewry's Bluff, July* 6, 1862.

I. The division near Drewry's Bluff will march this morning with the least possible delay in the direction of Prince George County, via Petersburg, with two days' rations in the haversacks of the men and two days' more in the wagons.

The following will be the order of march: 1st. All the rifled guns; 2d. Daniel's brigade; 3d. The remainder of the field artillery; 4th. Walker's brigade.

II. The head of the column will move at 8 o'clock.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Holmes:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
Phillips' House, Va., July 7, 1862.

HON. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War, Richmond, Va.:

SIR: I have the honor to call your attention to a paragraph in the Richmond Daily Dispatch of this morning, the publication of which might result most seriously to our army. In the third paragraph, first column, and first page, it states the forces at this point to be the divis-

* Not found.

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ions of Generals Longstreet, Jackson, and A. P. Hill. The entire Federal Army is in our immediate front; these papers reach the enemy, and the great danger of publishing any movements of this army and anything exhibiting its strength in whole or part must be apparent to all. I thought it was understood that our papers were to be silent on all matters appertaining to the movements of the army, and I beg that you will take the necessary steps to prevent in future the giving publicity in this way to our strength and position.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement.]

JULY 9, 1862.

Send copies of this letter to all the papers in the city, and express the hope that no steps may be necessary to stop such publications. A more rigid censorship should be established by the papers themselves, or they will do much mischief. It is the ardent wish of the Department that this revolution may be successfully closed without the suppression of one single newspaper in the Confederate States, and that our experience may be able to challenge comparison with our enemy.

[G. W. R.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *July* 7, 1862.

I. Brig. Gen. R. Ransom, jr., will rejoin with his brigade the command of Maj. Gen. T. H. Holmes, reporting without delay for duty at Drewry's Bluff.

II. Maj. Gen. B. Huger, so soon as the wounded and all public property have been collected in his front, will fall back to his former camp on the Williamsburg road, and, collecting his property with all dispatch, will take position on Falling Creek, south side of James River, marching by the shortest route, either by the pontoon bridge or through Richmond, as may be most convenient.

III. Division commanders are called upon to repress the spirit of depredation which the commanding general has observed with great concern to prevail among our troops. All offenders must be punished, and immediate commanders held responsible for the conduct of their men. Where growing crops are needed for forage the quantity will be ascertained, with the value, and receipts given therefor by the quartermaster of the troops camped in its vicinity requiring it for forage; and being purchased, it will be issued under direction of the purchasing quartermaster or his agent.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *July* 8, 1862.

The commands of Major-Generals Jackson and Longstreet will leave their present positions at sunset, placing previously some of their leading divisions on the different routes, as they may deem best, and proceed by easy marches—Major-General Jackson on the route by Rocks, crossing the White Oak Creek Bridge, and taking position on the Mechanicsville turnpike, north of Richmond.

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Major-General Longstreet's command will proceed by the roads by Dr. Poindexter's and Turkey Creek Bridge, and take position on Cornelius Creek, between the Central road and James River.

Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill will resume his former position near the Williamsburg road.

Major-General McLaws' division will take position north of the York River Railroad and between that and the New Bridge road, on north branch of Gillis Creek; this latter division to move to-morrow.

Each division commander will use every effort to reorganize his command, in securing the return of stragglers and all effective men, and preparing for immediate service.

Brigadier-General Stuart will dispose his cavalry after sunset to relieve the infantry pickets in front and cover the withdrawal of troops, as above directed, retiring before daybreak and taking position to secure his communication with Richmond, while his front will keep near to and watch the movements of the enemy.

By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Dabb's House, Va., July 9, 1862.

Col. T. F. GOODE,
Commanding Third Virginia Cavalry:

COLONEL: It is desired by the commanding general that you will collect all the citizens willing and able to co-operate with your regiment and adopt the requisite measures to attack, and, if possible, capture this regiment reported to be crossing the Mattapony. The bearer of this (Mr. Walker) will extend all facilities as a guide and in collecting the citizens as may aid you to the extent of his ability.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 146. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *July* 9, 1862.

* * * * * * *

III. Division commanders will cause to be immediately established within their own lines field hospitals in houses to be rented, if such can be conveniently found within their lines, otherwise under canvas, to which all their sick will be sent, to be attended by their own medical officers. Medical officers are strictly prohibited from sending men off from their commands on sick certificates, and commanding officers will enforce this regulation.

By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WHITE OAK BRIDGE,
July 10, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL:

GENERAL: Yours of this date has been received.* I send you a copy of the order for falling back.

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* Not found.

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There are no infantry that I am aware of in front of you this morning.

If no instructions have reached you I would, if in your place, move off to your position near the Williamsburg road.

I expect to leave here this evening about 3 o'clock.

Stuart is still in front.*

* * * * * * *

Respectfully,

T. J. JACKSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 11, 1862.

General GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

GENERAL: Special Orders, Nos. 158 and 159, issued from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, July 10, announce six transfers of privates in different regiments of this army, two of these being to the Signal Corps, which is already sufficiently large. By the same orders 23 privates are detailed for duty in commissary, ordnance, and medical departments, and on special duty not named. In accordance with the Regulations, applications for details, furloughs, and transfers should pass through the headquarters of this army, that I may pronounce upon their propriety. If it is the desire of the Department, however, to adopt a different rule, I would be glad to have it so stated, that no confusion may arise and I may be relieved from the responsibility now resting on me. I fear that both officers and men are assigned to special duty on individual applications, in which the public service is not sufficiently considered. Efforts are constantly made to release men from the ranks where they are most needed. Many will be discharged on July 17 by the conscript law, and who could no doubt be employed in the different offices. I would recommend also that these be employed in the development of the niter caves, instead of making details for this purpose from the ranks under General Orders, No. 41, of which 20 have been requested from this army. I hope, general, you will aid me to prevent as far as possible the diminution of our ranks by these various details.

I have the honor to be, yours, with high respect,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement.]

The details referred to were necessary, such as bakers, hospital stewards, &c., and the difficulty of communication during recent operations with the headquarters of the army prevented the usual reference. Applications for signal officers and men have been from Wilmington [and] Tennessee, which the corps is too small to meet. There will be no discharges on July 17 (see General Orders, No. 46), and therefore the persons required cannot be obtained from that source. The Department fully appreciates the impolicy of details, and has cut off these except in urgent cases.

G. W. R.

* Some personal matter omitted.

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RICHMOND, VA., *July* 11, 1862.

Brigadier-General FINEGAN,
Tallahassee, Fla.:

We shall need a considerable accession of force to reap the fruits of our victory. If you can spare any infantry in addition to the Eighth Regiment send them on and we will arm them here. Telegraph in reply.

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

ENGINEER BUREAU, *July* 11, 1862.

LEWIS E. HARVIE,
President Richmond and Danville Railroad:

SIR: General Lee and the Secretary of War are both exceedingly anxious to push rapidly to completion certain defensive works on or near the James River. For this purpose hands were called out in Halifax, Charlotte, Lunenburg, Pittsylvania, and Campbell Counties, but have failed to come in except in small numbers. One difficulty met with I understand is want of transportation on your road. If such is the case, may I ask your attention to the subject as one of great importance at this particular moment.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief of Engineer Bureau.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 77. HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *July* 11, 1862.

I. No leaves of absence during the near proximity of the enemy to Richmond can be given under any circumstances after this date. Those applying for sick leaves will be taken upon the sick report, and avail themselves of hospitals or accommodations in Richmond under medical attention until sufficiently recovered for duty.

II. Division commanders will establish guards around their camps to prevent straggling, and by regular roll calls during the day determine the presence of the men, and when absent adopt immediate measures for their return to their companies.

III. Surg. T. H. Wingfield, Fifth Regiment North Carolina Volunteers, is assigned to duty as medical inspector of field hospitals and camps of the Army of Northern Virginia, subject to the instructions of Surg. L. Guild, medical director.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LIGHT DIVISION,
July 12, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army:

I have the honor to request that I may be relieved from the command of Major-General Longstreet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. HILL,
Major-General, Commanding Light Division.

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[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS, *July* 14, 1862.

Respectfully forwarded.

If it is convenient to exchange the troops, or to exchange the commanders, I see no particular reason why Maj. Gen. A. P. Hill should not be gratified.

Very respectfully,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 12, 1862.

General GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

GENERAL: I am compelled again to call your attention to details, transfers, &c., of soldiers in this army. By Special Orders, No. 160, from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, six privates are detailed for special duty—two to report to the Governor of Alabama; two privates are transferred from this army (one to forces in Georgia, the other to the Southwest), and a leave of absence is granted to an officer for thirty days. There are, no doubt, good reasons for these details, but unless the applications pass through the headquarters of this army I am unable to judge of their propriety. I have been obliged to issue an order that no application for furloughs will be considered except on a surgeon's certificate of disability. If this order can be evaded by application to the War Department dissatisfaction will be created among those who have been refused. I know you understand the condition of the army, and believe it is only necessary to call your attention to the injurious effects of this course to have it remedied. I regard the subject as one of immediate importance to the efficiency of the army.

I have the honor to be, with high respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 161. } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., July 12, 1862.

* * * * * * *

II. Maj. Gen. Benjamin Huger, of the Provisional Army, is hereby relieved from duty with the division now under his command. He is assigned as inspector of artillery and ordnance in the Army of the Confederate States, and will report to the War Department for orders and instructions.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 78. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 12, 1862.

It is believed that the troops of this army have thrown aside in many

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instances the smooth-bore muskets, substituting those of longer range captured from the enemy.

Division commanders will cause rigid inspections to be made of their respective commands, giving uniform armament to different organizations, in order that confusion and possible disaster in supplying ammunition may be avoided, and report the armament of each, to enable the Ordnance Department to supply the proper ammunition.

By command of General Lee:

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Commanding Department of North Carolina, &c.:

GENERAL: Your letter* of the 12th instant has been received. I take pleasure in expressing my gratification at the skillful and bold conduct of Colonel Cooke. Should you think his continuance on his present service advantageous he can remain or be withdrawn, according to your judgment. The information with reference to the movements of General Burnside I consider highly probable. If confirmed, the troops at Goldsborough and other points within the State, save to prevent expeditions, will be unnecessary; nor need there be men more than sufficient to garrison the batteries on Cape Fear River, to prevent the ascent of the enemy's vessels. I would therefore recommend that you concentrate all the rest of the force between the Appomattox and Drewry's Bluff, disposing them in the best position to protect the approaches to the battery at the latter point, and to cover that section of the country as far as possible from the minds of the enemy. I directed Major Meade, of the Engineers, some days since, to commence a system of land defense from Drewry's Bluff, encircling the approaches to Manchester. Should the health of Major Stevens, whose attention had been previously [directed] to the same object, have prevented him from entering upon this duty, I desire this work pushed with all possible dispatch.

In bringing on the troops from your department it is desirable that arrangements be made so as to interfere as little as possible with the transportation of the troops supposed now on their way from the Department of South Carolina.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, *July* 13, 1862.

Brigadier-General FRENCH,
Or Officer in Command at Wilmington, N. C.:

Say to General Magruder, who will probably pass through Wilmington this evening, that circumstances render it necessary for him to return directly to this place. Telegraph after train has arrived whether message has been delivered to General Magruder. If he has left Wilmington, try to send this message to intercept him, and telegraph result.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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* Not found.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 151. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *July* 14, 1862.

* * * * * * *

III. Maj. Gen. B. Huger having been relieved from duty with this army by paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 161, of July, 1862, to enter upon the duties of inspector of artillery and ordnance in the Army of the Confederate States, Maj. Gen. R. H. Anderson, Provisional Army of the Confederate States, is assigned to the command of his division.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Lee:

_____ _____,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., July 15, 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. C. PEMBERTON,
Commanding, &c., Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: It is deemed necessary for ultimate operations in this quarter, which are daily becoming more and more important, that the army for the defense of Richmond should be speedily re-enforced. The President therefore desires that you hasten forward such regiments and brigades of your command as you may be enabled to spare. In consideration of the present season, when sickness most prevails on the Southern coast, and when the enemy would be least likely to carry on active operations in that quarter, the President, after due reflection, has arrived at the conclusion that you might safely dispense with at least more than one-half of your effective force. In sending forward this force he desires that you will place it under the command of Brigadier-Generals Drayton and Evans, and retain for the command of the troops on James Island and the coast of South Carolina generally Brigadier-Generals Gist and Hagood, at such positions as your judgment may indicate.

I desire to impress upon you the importance of this movement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 15, 1862.

Col. THOMAS S. RHETT,
Commanding Richmond Defenses:

COLONEL: With regard to the Blakely and siege guns required at Wilmington and Charleston, the general commanding thinks they are not required—certainly not at Wilmington and probably not at Charleston, but their services are deemed more essential here than elsewhere at present, and unless urgent necessity should be shown to exist at Charleston they will be retained here; and with regard to the guns in possession of Tredegar Battalion, the matter was referred by the general to Colonel Gorgas for his consideration and action. The general deems it unnecessary for you to continue the picketing and authorizes their withdrawal. General Pendleton has been advised upon the sub-

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ject of light artillery camps and injury to crops, with a view to correcting evils complained of in your letter, and Major Cole, inspector of transportation, has been directed to look to the trains and their proper location. I believe I have covered the different points of your letter.

I am, colonel, respectfully, your obedient servant,

———— ————,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 15, 1862.

Brig. Gen. PAUL J. SEMMES,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: Your letter* of this date has been received, and the commanding general directs me to say that the subject of the numerous desertions and stragglings from the army has been the source of grave consideration. He can see no means [of] correcting the evil unless the immediate commanders of regiments and brigades display proper energy in keeping their commands together. Orders can be of no avail unless those who are intrusted with their execution see them faithfully enforced. Examples should be made of the delinquents, but they can only be reached through their immediate commanders. In regard to your particular brigade, Major-General McLaws says the original brigade was turned over to General Semmes, numbering about 2,416 aggregate present and 529 absent. Since then he has received Thirty-second Virginia Regiment, absentees from which are 216; total number of absentees 905. General Semmes states that he now has 1,600 absent. He is therefore responsible for about 700 absentees. General Winder has received orders to arrest all deserters and absentees without authority from the army, and to cause them to be reported to the commands to which they belong. It is the duty of their immediate commanding officers to hold them to a strict account for their delinquencies.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

JULY 15, 1862.

Gen. S. G. FRENCH:

Come to Petersburg immediately and assume command of the department.

TH. H. HOLMES.

HEADQUARTERS,
Falling Creek, Va., July 16, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: As there is a very general impression among the people that I deserted Norfolk, and gentlemen who have traveled in the cars mention that they hear me thus spoken of continually, it seems to me, as nobody else will arrest the error, it is due to me that I should be allowed to publish the orders under which I acted.

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I request your permission to publish: 1st, General Johnston's order to me of May 1; 2d, your modification of that order, May 3; 3d, my reply to General Johnston, May 2; and, 4th, my letter to General Lee, May 3.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *July* 17, 1862.

Brigadier-General EVANS,
Adams Run, S. C.:

You will proceed at once to Richmond, Va., in command of Means' regiment, Seventeenth South Carolina Volunteers, Holcombe Legion, Benbow's Twenty-third Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, Gadberry's Eighteenth Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, Leake's Virginia battery, Boyce's South Carolina battery. A portion of your troops will move via Charlotte, N. C.

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *July* 17, 1862.

Brigadier-General DRAYTON,
Hardeeville, S. C.:

You will proceed at once to Richmond, Va., in command of Phillips' Legion; Slaughter's Fifty-first Georgia Regiment, from Charleston; Manning's Fiftieth Georgia Regiment, from Savannah; De Saussure's Fifteenth Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, from Charleston; James' Third Battalion South Carolina Infantry, from Summerville. Phillips' Legion and Manning's regiment will go by Augusta.

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 18, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JAMES LONGSTREET,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: In reply to your letter* of the 11th instant I have the honor to inform you that the Secretary of War has authorized me to comply with the request of Colonel Jenkins, as to retaining the regimental standard of the Sixteenth Michigan Regiment for presentation to the Governor of his State. You will please communicate this information to Colonel Jenkins, who is authorized to receive the colors for the purpose mentioned in your letter.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

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*Not found.

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 19, 1862.

Capt. A. L. RIVES, *Acting Chief of Engineer Bureau:*

CAPTAIN: The point you state you have selected seems to be favorable, provided the approaches to it are not too difficult. Of this you can judge better than myself. If examination of the approaches proves the ground favorable the bridge should be constructed immediately. I am pleased to learn that you are progressing in the arrangement for the bridge at Belle Isle.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CHARLESTON, S. C., *July* 20, 1862.

General S. COOPER, *Richmond, Va.:*

The receipt of your letter July 15 was acknowledged on 17th by telegraph.

On the 18th De Saussure's and Gadberry's regiments left here.

On the 19th Slaughter's and Benbow's [regiments] and Boyce's field battery.

On the 20th Means' regiment, James' battalion, and Leake's battery will leave here.

On the 20th, probably, Phillips' Legion and Manning's regiment, via Savannah and Branchville.

On the 21st, probably, Holcombe Legion from here.

Major Hampton's four companies of cavalry as soon as their places can be supplied on James Island. The troops are pushed on as fast as transportation can be forwarded. I have ordered no others.

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Major-General, Commanding.

Abstract from Field Return of the Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General R. E. Lee, July 20, 1862.

Troops.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Aggregate present last field return.
	Officers.	Men.			
Department of North Carolina in Virginia	747	11,509	15,801	19,868	.....
Longstreet's division	585	7,929	11,672	20,781	10,393
D. H. Hill's division	575	8,998	13,634	21,374	12,048
McLaws' division	532	7,188	10,340	14,412	9,331
A. P. Hill's division	547	10,104	15,436	23,054	10,506
Anderson's division	376	5,760	8,639	13,346	7,[illegible]50
D. R. Jones' division	224	3,500	4,615	6,780	4,119
Whiting's division	260	3,600	5,314	8,383	4,110
Stuart's cavalry	301	2,740	5,277	6,724	3,475
Pendleton's and Rhett's artillery	186	3,071	3,964	4,387	3,887
Grand total	4,333	65,399	94,692	139,110	65,419

NOTE ON ORIGINAL RETURN.

Aggregate present July 20 (exclusive of Department of North Carolina)	78,891
Aggregate present July 10 (exclusive of Department of North Carolina)	65,419
Increase	13,472

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ENGINEER BUREAU,
Richmond, Va., July 21, 1862.

Col. THOMAS S. RHETT,
In charge of Ordnance Bureau:

COLONEL: The number of heavy guns required for the defense at Warwick Bar will be in the course of three weeks six, minimum four; six heavy siege guns will be required for the Appomattox. As they are to contend with vessels, it is thought rifled guns would be decidedly preferable.

Very respectfully, &c.,

ALFRED L. RIVES,
Acting Chief, &c.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. —. HEADQUARTERS OF DIVISION, *July* 21, 1862.

In pursuance of orders from the Headquarters of the Army, the undersigned relinquishes his present command to enter upon a new field of duty.* It is with unfeigned pain and reluctance he leaves a division which in the last two months has poured out more blood in the sacred cause of the South than any division of the Army; which alone and unsupported drove the enemy from his abatis, fortifications, and rifle pits at Seven Pines, capturing eight guns, the camp and stores of the enemy, and which at Mechanicsville, Cold Harbor, White Oak River, and Malvern Hill exhibited all those high and heroic qualities for which the Southern soldier is so remarkable.

The division, too, has been endeared to its commander by its uniform good conduct in the camp as well as in the field. The troops have ever shown by their quiet and conservative character, their orderly behavior, and prompt obedience that they did not believe whisky, bluster, and profanity and rowdyism to be necessary adjuncts to the soldier.

May you ever maintain your present proud position. May you ever rebuke with proper scorn the wretches who desert your colors in battle or straggle from your ranks on the march or in camp. May your future deeds be such that when your name is mentioned it may send a thrill of joy through the heart of him who once had the honor of commanding you.

By order of D. H. Hill, major-general:

J. W. TAYLOE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *July* 23, 1862.

General JAMES LONGSTREET,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Your note† of this morning is received. If you can find suitable positions you can locate a brigade on the Darbytown and River roads and give them the necessary directions. They will serve, in addition to what was proposed, to prevent alarms and thus prevent annoy-

*To relieve Maj. Gen. Theophilus H. Holmes. See Series I, Vol. IX, p. 476.
†Not found.

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ance to the troops. I have directed General Wise's brigade to be attached to your command. He is in your front, and I desire you to take charge of the operations of that wing of the army.

General McClellan's demonstrations may be to deceive, test our strength, or preparatory to real movements. He will require to be watched and restrained. I have directed General D. H. Hill from the right bank of the river to endeavor, by movable batteries, sharp-shooters, &c., to annoy and arrest, if possible, the transport of his supplies.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 23, 1862.

Major-General LONGSTREET,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Your note* of this date has been received, and in reply the commanding general directs me to say that, as you have examined the positions in the neighborhood of New Market, you are desired to select the position that you deem best, and to send such troops to occupy it as you may think necessary to hold it. You are desired to make all the necessary arrangements.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 160. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 23, 1862.

I. Brig. Gen. H. A. Wise's brigade is hereby detached from Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill's division and assigned to the command of Maj. Gen. J. Longstreet, to whom he will report.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Richmond, Va., July 23, 1862.

Maj. Gen. W. W. LORING,
Commanding Department of Southwest Virginia:

GENERAL: Your letter* of July 12 to the Secretary of War has been referred to General Lee, who directs me to say that he is very desirous that you should be so re-enforced as to enable you to make a forward movement, particularly at this moment, as the enemy seems to be tottering in his various positions; but he exceedingly regrets his entire

* Not found.

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inability to send you any re-enforcements at present. The demand for troops here and at other points has been so great, and the new levies come in so slowly, that there is not an available man to send anywhere.

The general is fully satisfied that you will make the best possible use of the troops that you have at your disposal.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

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*Organization of the Army of Northern Virginia, July 23, 1862.**

MAJ. GEN. T. J. JACKSON'S COMMAND.

GENERAL T. J. JACKSON'S OWN DIVISION.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. C. S. WINDER.

2d Virginia, Lieut. Col. Lawson Botts.
4th Virginia, Col. C. A. Ronald.
5th Virginia, Col. W. S. H. Baylor.
27th Virginia, Col. A. J. Grigsby.
33d Virginia, Col. John F. Neff.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. R. JONES.

21st Virginia, Col. J. M. Patton.
42d Virginia, Col. J. S. Burks.
48th Virginia, Col. John A. Campbell.
1st Virginia Battalion, Maj. John Seddon.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. W. B. TALIAFERRO.

47th Alabama, Col. J. M. Oliver.
48th Alabama, Col. J. L. Sheffield.
10th Virginia, Col. E. T. H. Warren.
23d Virginia, Col. Alex. G. Taliaferro.
37th Virginia, Maj. T. V. Williams.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. A. R. LAWTON.

13th Georgia, Col. M. Douglass.
26th Georgia, Col. E. N. Atkinson.
31st Georgia, Col. C. A. Evans.
38th Georgia, Capt. W. H. Battey.
60th Georgia, Col. W. H. Stiles, sr.
61st Georgia, Col. John H. Lamar.

MAJ. GEN. R. S. EWELL'S DIVISION.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. A. EARLY.

12th Georgia, Col. Z. T. Conner.
13th Virginia, Col. J. A. Walker.
25th Virginia, Col. G. H. Smith.
31st Virginia, Col. John S. Hoffman.
44th Virginia, Col. W. C. Scott.
52d Virginia, Col. M. G. Harman.
58th Virginia, Col. S. H. Letcher.

Seventh Brigade.

Brig. Gen. I. R. TRIMBLE.

15th Alabama, Col. James Cantey.
21st Georgia, Col. J. T. Mercer.
21st North Carolina, Col. W. W. Kirkland.

Eighth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. TAYLOR.

6th Louisiana, Col. H. B. Strong.
7th Louisiana, Col. Harry T. Hays.
8th Louisiana, Col. Henry B. Kelly.
9th Louisiana, Col. L. A. Stafford.
1st Louisiana Special Battalion, Capt. Robert A. Harris.

Maryland Line.

1st Maryland, Col. B. T. Johnson.

*July 12, Parker's battery assigned to McLaws' division. July 14, Andrews' (R. Snowden), Balthis', Brown's (Maryland), and Johnson's (J. R.) batteries assigned to Jackson's command.

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MAJ. GEN. JAMES LONGSTREET'S COMMAND.

MAJ. GEN. JAMES LONGSTREET'S DIVISION.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. L. KEMPER.

1st Virginia, Col. L. B. Williams.
7th Virginia, Col. W. T. Patton.
11th Virginia, Col. D. Funsten.
17th Virginia, Col. M. D. Corse.
24th Virginia, Col. P. Hairston.
Loudoun (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. A. L. Rogers.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. M. JENKINS.

2d South Carolina Rifles, Col. J. V. Moore.
5th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. A. Jackson.
6th South Carolina, Col. John Bratton.
Palmetto Sharpshooters, Col. Jos. Walker.
Mattison's (South Carolina) battalion, Maj. C. S. Mattison.
Fauquier (Virginia) Artillery, Captain R. H. Stribling.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. G. E. PICKETT.

8th Virginia, Col. Eppa Hunton.
18th Virginia, Col. R. E. Withers.
19th Virginia, Col. John B. Strange.
28th Virginia, Col. Robert C. Allen.
56th Virginia, Col. W. D. Stuart.
Lynchburg (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. James Dearing.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. C. M. WILCOX.

8th Alabama, Col. Y. L. Royston.
9th Alabama, Col. Samuel Henry.
10th Alabama, Col. J. J. Woodward.
11th Alabama, Col. S. Moore.

Fifth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. A. PRYOR.

14th Alabama, Col. T. J. Judge.
2d Florida, Col. E. A. Perry.
14th Louisiana, Col. R. W. Jones.
Louisiana Battalion, Lieut. Col. G. Coppens.
3d Virginia, Col. Joseph Mayo, jr.

Sixth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. W. S. FEATHERSTON.

12th Mississippi, Col. W. H. Taylor.
16th Mississippi, Col. Carnot Posey.
19th Mississippi, Col. L. Q. C. Lamar.
2d Mississippi Battalion, Major Wilson.

Artillery Brigade.

Battalion Washington Artillery (Louisiana), Col. J. B. Walton.
Dixie Artillery (Virginia), Capt. W. H. Chapman.

MAJ. GEN. A. P. HILL'S DIVISION.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. C. W. FIELD.

40th Virginia, Col. J. M. Brockenbrough.
47th Virginia, Col. R. M. Mayo.
55th Virginia, Col. F. Mallory.
60th Virginia, Col. W. E. Starke.
2d Virginia Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. J. C. Johnson.
Middlesex (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. W. C. Fleet.
Purcell (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. W. J. Pegram.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. M. GREGG.

1st South Carolina, Col. D. H. Hamilton.
12th South Carolina, Col. D. Barnes.
13th South Carolina, Col. O. E. Edwards.
14th South Carolina, Col. S. McGowan.
1st South Carolina Rifles, Col. J. F. Marshall.
Letcher (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. G. Davidson.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. R. ANDERSON.

14th Georgia, Col. R. W. Folsom.
35th Georgia, Col. E. L. Thomas.
45th Georgia, Col. T. Hardeman.
49th Georgia, Col. A. J. Lane.
3d Louisiana Battalion, Col. Edmund Pendleton.
William G. Crenshaw's (Virginia) battery.
Pee Dee (South Carolina) Artillery, Capt. D. G. McIntosh.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. L. O'B. BRANCH.

7th North Carolina, Colonel Forbes [?].
18th North Carolina, Col. R. H. Cowan.
28th North Carolina, Col. J. H. Lane.
33d North Carolina, Col. R. F. Hoke.
37th North Carolina, Col. W. M. Barbour.
Branch (North Carolina) Artillery, Capt. A. C. Latham.
Marmaduke Johnson's (Virginia) battery.

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MAJ. GEN. A. P. HILL'S DIVISION—Continued.

Fifth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ARCHER.

5th Alabama Battalion, Capt. Van de Graaff.
19th Georgia, Col. W. W. Boyd.
1st Tennessee, Col. P. Turney.
7th Tennessee, Col. John F. Goodner.
14th Tennessee, Col. W. A. Forbes.
Fredericksburg (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. C. M. Braxton.

Sixth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. W. D. PENDER.

16th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. J. S. McElroy.
22d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. R. H. Gray.
34th North Carolina, Maj. Eli H. Miller.
38th North Carolina, Maj. L. D. Andrews.
German (South Carolina) Artillery, Capt. W. K. Bachman.

BRIG. GEN. D. R. JONES' DIVISION.

——— *Brigade.*

Brig. Gen. R. TOOMBS.

2d Georgia, Col. E. M. Butt.
15th Georgia, Lieut. Col. W. T. Millican.
17th Georgia, Col. H. L. Benning.
20th Georgia, Col. J. B. Cumming.
Madison (Louisiana) Artillery, Capt. G. V. Moody.

——— *Brigade.*

Col. G. T. ANDERSON.

1st Georgia (Regulars), Col. W. J. Magill.
7th Georgia, Col. W. T. Wilson.
8th Georgia, Col. L. M. Lamar.
9th Georgia, Col. R. A. Turnipseed.
11th Georgia, Lieut. Col. William Luffman.
Brown's (Virginia) battery.
Hart's (South Carolina) battery.

MAJ. GEN. D. H. HILL'S DIVISION.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. E. RODES.

3d Alabama, Lieut. Col. C. A. Battle.
5th Alabama, Col. J. M. Hall.
6th Alabama, Col. J. B. Gordon.
12th Alabama, Col. B. B. Gayle.
26th Alabama, Col. E. A. O'Neal.

Second Brigade.

Col. A. H. COLQUITT.

13th Alabama, Col. B. D. Fry.
6th Georgia, Col. A. H. Colquitt.
23d Georgia, Col. William P. Barclay.
27th Georgia, Col. Levi B. Smith.
28th Georgia, Col. T. J. Warthen.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. S. GARLAND, Jr.

5th North Carolina, Col. D. K. McRae.
12th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. B. O. Wade.
13th North Carolina, Col. A. M. Scales.
20th North Carolina, Col. Alfred Iverson.
23d North Carolina, Col. D. H. Christie.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. G. B. ANDERSON.

2d North Carolina, Col. O. C. Tew.
4th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. B. Grimes.
14th North Carolina, Col. P. W. Roberts.
30th North Carolina, Col. F. M. Parker.

Fifth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY.

4th Georgia, Col. George Doles.
48th Georgia, Col. William Gibson.
1st North Carolina, Col. M. S. Stokes.
3d North Carolina, Col. G. Meares.

Sixth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. H. A. WISE.

4th Virginia Heavy Artillery, Col. J. T. Goode.*
20th Virginia, Lieut. Col. N. Tyler.
26th Virginia, Col. P. R. Page.*
46th Virginia, Col. R. T. W. Duke.*
59th Virginia, Col. C. F. Henningsen.

Artillery.

J. W. Bondurant's (Alabama) battery (6 pieces).
Thomas H. Carter's (Virginia) battery (5 pieces).
P. H. Clark's (Virginia) battery (4 pieces).
R. A. Hardaway's (Alabama) battery (5 pieces).
William Nelson's (Virginia) battery (6 pieces).
Jefferson Peyton's (Virginia) battery (4 pieces).
Rhett's (South Carolina) battery (4 pieces).

* These are the only complete regiments. (Note on original.)

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MAJ. GEN. R. H. ANDERSON'S DIVISION.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MAHONE.

6th Virginia, Col. G. T. Rogers.
12th Virginia, Col. D. A. Weisiger.
16th Virginia, Col. H. T. Parrish.
41st Virginia, Col. J. R. Chambliss, jr.
49th Virginia, Col. William Smith.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. A. R. WRIGHT.

44th Alabama, Col. James Kent.
3d Georgia, ——— ——— ———.
22d Georgia, Col. R. H. Jones.
44th Georgia, Col. R. A. Smith.
1st Louisiana, Lieut. Col. W. R. Shivers.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. L. A. ARMISTEAD.

9th Virginia, Col. D. J. Godwin.
14th Virginia, Col. J. G. Hodges.
38th Virginia, Col. E. C. Edmonds.
53d Virginia, Col. H. B. Tomlin.
57th Virginia, Col. E. F. Keen.
5th Battalion, Maj. W. R. Foster.

Artillery Brigade.

C. E. Girardey's (Louisiana) bat'y (6 pcs).
C. F. Grimes' (Virginia) battery (6 pieces).
Frank Huger's (Virginia) bat'y (4 pieces).
M. N. Moorman's battery (6 pieces).
E. F. Moseley's (Virginia) bat'y (4 pieces.)
W. H. Turner's (Virginia) bat'y (4 pieces.)

MAJ. GEN. L. M'LAWS' DIVISION.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. P. J. SEMMES.

10th Georgia, Col. Alfred Cumming.
53d Georgia, Col. L. T. Doyal.
5th Louisiana, Col. T. G. Hunt.
10th Louisiana, Maj. William H. Spencer.
15th Virginia, Col. T. P. August.
32d Virginia, Col. E. B. Montague.
B. C. Manly's (North Carolina) battery.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HOWELL COBB.

16th Georgia, Col. Goode Bryan.
24th Georgia, Col. Robert McMillan.
Cobb Georgia Legion, Col. T. R. R. Cobb.
2d Louisiana, Col. J. M. Williams.
15th North Carolina, Col. H. A. Dowd.
H. H. Carlton's (Georgia) battery.

Third Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM BARKSDALE.

13th Mississippi, Col. William Barksdale.
17th Mississippi, Col. W. D. Holder.
18th Mississippi, Col. T. M. Griffin.
21st Mississippi, Col. B. G. Humphreys.
E. S. McCarthy's (Virginia) battery.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW.

2d South Carolina, Col. J. D. Kennedy.
3d South Carolina, Col. J. D. Nance.
7th South Carolina, Col. D. W. Aiken.
8th South Carolina, Col. J. W. Henagan.
Alexandria (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Del. Kemper.

MAJ. GEN. D. H. HILL'S COMMAND.*

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. G. MARTIN.

17th North Carolina, Col. W. F. Martin.
44th North Carolina, Col. T. C. Singeltary.
47th North Carolina, Col. S. H. Rogers.
52d North Carolina, Col. J. K. Marshall.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. R. RANSOM, Jr.

24th North Carolina, Col. W. J. Clarke.
25th North Carolina, Col. H. M. Rutledge.
26th North Carolina, Col. Z. B. Vance.
35th North Carolina, Col. M. W. Ransom.
49th North Carolina, Col. S. D. Ramseur.
Burrough's Battalion Virginia Cavalry.
North Carolina Cavalry (2 companies).
Joseph Graham's (N. Carolina) battery.

Third Brigade.

Col. JUNIUS DANIEL.

32d North Carolina, Col. E. C. Brabble.
43d North Carolina, Col. T. S. Kenan.
45th North Carolina, Col. J. Daniel.
50th North Carolina, Col. M. D. Craton.
53d North Carolina, Col. W. A. Owens.

Fourth Brigade.

Brig. Gen. J. G. WALKER.

3d Arkansas, Col. Van H. Manning.
2d Georgia Battalion, Maj. George W. Ross.
27th North Carolina, Col. J. R. Cooke.
46th North Carolina, Col. E. D. Hall.
48th North Carolina, Col. Robert C. Hill.
30th Virginia, Col. A. T. Harrison.

*That portion of it in North Carolina excluded. (See also D. H. Hill's division.)

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MAJ. GEN. D. H. HILL'S COMMAND—Continued.

Unattached Troops.

61st Virginia Infantry, Col. S. M. Wilson.
13th Virginia Cavalry, Lieut. Col. J. C. Phillips.

Light Artillery.

J. R. Branch's (Virginia) battery.
J. C. Coit's (South Carolina) battery.
W. H. French's (Virginia) battery.
E. Graham's (Virginia) battery.
C. R. Grandy's (Virginia) battery.
Lloyd's (North Carolina) battery.
Ruffin's (Virginia) battery.

BRIG. GEN. W. H. C. WHITING'S DIVISION.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING.

4th Alabama, Col. E. M. Law.
2d Mississippi, Colonel J. M. Stone.
11th Mississippi, Col. P. F. Liddell.
6th North Carolina, Col. I. E. Avery.
James Reilly's (North Carolina) battery.

Texas Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. HOOD.

18th Georgia, Col. W. T. Wofford.
Hampton Legion, Lieut. Col. M. W. Gary.
1st Texas, Col. A. T. Rainey.
4th Texas, Col. J. C. G. Key.
5th Texas, Col. J. B. Robertson.
W. L. Balthis' (Virginia) battery.

CAVALRY.

Brig. Gen. J. E. B. STUART commanding.

1st Virginia, Col. Fitzhugh Lee.
3d Virginia, Col. Thomas F. Goode.
4th Virginia, Col. S. D. Lee, col. of art'y.
5th Virginia, Col. T. L. Rosser.
9th Virginia, Col. W. H. F. Lee.
10th Virginia, Col. J. L. Davis.
Cobb Georgia Legion, Lieut. Col. P. M. B. Young.
Jeff. Davis Legion, Lieut. Col. W. T. Martin.
Hampton Legion, Maj. M. C. Butler.*
1st North Carolina, Col. L. S. Baker.
Critcher's (Virginia) Battalion, Maj. J. Critcher.
Stuart Horse Artillery, Capt. John Pelham.

RESERVE ARTILLERY.

Brig. Gen. W. N. PENDLETON commanding.

First Virginia Light Artillery.

Col. J. T. BROWN.

Capt. J. A. Coke's company.
Capt. Willis J. Dance's company.
Capt. A. Hupp's company.
Capt. M. C. Macon's company.
Capt. L. W. Richardson's company.
Capt. W. B. Ritter's company.
Captain B. H. Smith's company.
Capt. D. Watson's company.
Capt. J. W. Wyatt's company.
Capt. E. R. Young's company.

First Battalion Georgia Reserve Artillery.

Lieut. Col. A. S. CUTTS.

Capt. J. A. Blackshear's company.
Capt. C. P. Crawford's company.
Capt. J. Lane's company.
Capt. J. V. Price's company.
Capt. H. M. Ross' company.

Second Battalion Reserve Artillery.

Maj. CHARLES RICHARDSON.

Capt. J. J. Ancell's company.
Capt. John Milledge's (jr.) company.
Capt. Pichegru Woolfolk's company.

Third Battalion Reserve Artillery.

Maj. WILLIAM NELSON.

Capt. James McD. Carrington's company.
Capt. C. T. Huckstep's company.
Capt. Thomas J. Kirkpatrick's company.
Capt. R. C. M. Page's company.

Fourth Battalion Reserve Artillery.†

Maj. H. P. JONES.

Capt. P. H. Clark's company.
Capt. Jefferson Peyton's company.
Capt. A. B. Rhett's company.
Captain Turner's company.

* Hampton Cavalry Legion is serving with Jeff. Davis Legion. (Note on original.)
† These batteries elsewhere reported.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 24, 1862.

SENIOR OFFICER WITH CAVALRY,
Between James and Chickahominy Rivers:

SIR: The commanding general desires that you will take charge of all the cavalry between James River, near Malvern Hill, and Savage Station, establishing a uniform line of pickets to act in concert, and holding position as far as practicable until withdrawn by competent authority. Artillery should also be kept at the crossing or bridge of White Oak and that point be held. Application to General Longstreet will supply the required artillery, and all changes or occurrences of importance will be immediately reported to him, with the view to such measures as he may deem necessary, his command holding the right of our position.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 25, 1862.

Maj. Gen. LAFAYETTE MCLAWS,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The letter* of Colonel Nance, with reference to estrays, with your indorsement, is received. I fear this is one of the evils resulting from the laxity of discipline in the army, which it will require the united efforts of all to remedy. I do not see what can be accomplished by the publication of an order on this subject. If any course can be suggested, or if the enlargement of the power of any regimental or brigade commander is required, I shall be glad to consider it. Should any particular cases of misconduct be reported, examples will be made of the offenders. I hope that the measures taken by you will be found effectual to break up what I regard as a great evil in your command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 25, 1862.

Col. STEPHEN D. LEE,
Commanding Fourth Virginia Cavalry:

COLONEL: The report* of your affair with the enemy's cavalry on the 24th instant has been referred to the commanding general, who directs me to convey to you his hearty congratulations upon the gallant and successful manner in which you met and repulsed with your command the attempts of the enemy's cavalry upon your position. The affair was spirited, and reflects the highest credit upon yourself and command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

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* Not found.

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HEADQUARTERS, *July* 25, 1862.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President of the Confederate States:

SIR: In reply to the letter of Col. P. F. Liddell, Eleventh Mississippi Regiment, applying for a transfer of his regiment and the Second Mississippi, Colonel Stone, to one of the Mississippi brigades in Virginia, which you have referred to me for my remarks, I have the honor to state that I consider the brigade to which they are now attached a Mississippi brigade. Two of the four regiments which compose it are from Mississippi, and it is commanded by a Mississippian. It is my intention, as soon as the Forty-second Mississippi Regiment, lately arrived in Richmond, Colonel Miller, can be withdrawn from the city, to assign it to that brigade, and to attach the Sixth North Carolina, now with it, to Colonel Walker's brigade. I should like to obtain a fourth Mississippi regiment to replace the Fourth Alabama; it would then be entirely composed of Mississippi regiments. If the Eleventh and Second are now withdrawn from it it will break up a veteran brigade, distinguished for good service from the beginning of the war in Virginia, and will leave General Whiting, an officer from Mississippi, without a brigade.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *July* 26, 1862.

THOMAS RANDAL,
Tallahassee, Fla.:

MY DEAR SIR: I have received and attentively considered your letter of the 18th instant, with its inclosed memoir, and propose to confer with General Lee in regard to its contents before referring the matter to the Engineer Bureau.

With respect to the defenses upon James River, the topography and the positions of the opposing forces do not favor the application of your suggested plan. Most of the enemy's force is encamped upon low ground, and the points upon the river bank where our batteries are stationed are high bluffs, that command the channel to such an extent as to render artificial elevation unnecessary. The defensive points upon the Potomac, Mississippi, and Alabama Rivers are of a similar character.

For sea-coast batteries upon a low beach and other positions where there is little natural command works of the character you propose might subserve an excellent purpose. Where this is found to be the case the Government will gladly avail itself of the results of your experience and reflection.

Thanking you for the suggestions and the trouble you have taken in forwarding them to me, I remain, very respectfully, yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 26, 1862.

Brig. Gen. J. J. ARCHER,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The condition of the Tennessee brigade has been submitted to the President. It has been determined to fill up the ranks

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by sending officers to Tennessee to recruit for that purpose. With this view I desire you to cause proper officers to be selected from each regiment, to be sent to Tennessee, and to report their names to me at once for that purpose. Governor Harris has been appealed to to send another regiment to complete the brigade, in addition to the requisite number of men to fill up the present regiments. Rolls of each regiment must be prepared to be sent with the officers.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 26, 1862.

Hon. LOUIS T. WIGFALL,
Confederate States Senate, &c.:

GENERAL: I send you herewith inclosed the reports* of three Texas regiments of Hood's brigade. You will perceive that 334 recruits are wanted for the Fourth Regiment; 486 recruits for the First Regiment; 316 recruits for the Fifth Regiment, and, in addition to these, 100 extra men for the Fourth Regiment, 50 for the First Regiment, and 50 for the Fifth Regiment, in order to fill up losses likely to be sustained by deaths and discharges among the present sick and wounded; making a total of 1,336 recruits needed to fill up the three regiments. In addition to these, two more regiments are desired to fill up the brigade and five more for a second Texas brigade. This application I would most earnestly urge. If the seven new regiments cannot be obtained, we ought at least to be able to get five, in order to make two Texas brigades of four regiments each.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 173. } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., July 26, 1862.

* * * * * * *

X. The following officers will, without delay, report to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., for cavalry duty: Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, Provisional Army; Brig. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, Provisional Army; Brig. Gen. Wade Hampton, Provisional Army.

XI. Brig. Gen. Harry T. Hays will report for duty to General R. E. Lee, commanding, &c., near Richmond, Va.

XII. The following assignments to the command of brigades composed of regiments of Louisiana Volunteers in the army commanded by General R. E. Lee are hereby directed, viz: Brig. Gen. Richard Taylor to the Second Brigade; Brig. Gen. Harry T. Hays to the First Brigade.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Not found.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 163. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *July* 26, 1862.

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II. The First Louisiana (Wright's brigade), Ninth Louisiana (Taylor's brigade, Army Valley District), Fifteenth Louisiana (late Third Louisiana Battalion, of J. R. Anderson's brigade), Coppens' battalion, of R. A. Pryor's brigade, will report without delay to Major-General McLaws, to constitute, in connection with the Second and Tenth Louisiana Regiments, a brigade of that division.

III. The staff departments will furnish upon requisition the transportation, subsistence, &c., necessary to carry out this order.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *July* 27, 1862.

General D. H. HILL,
Petersburg, Va.:

Report has reached me that Burnside has passed through Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal toward the eastern coast of North Carolina. Though it seems improbable, it was thought well to send it to you.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 27, 1862.

Maj. Gen. LAFAYETTE MCLAWS:

GENERAL: The commanding general wishes you to select positions, with due reference to support of your front lines, as will be best conducive to health of your command, not passing beyond the Mechanicsville road. The massing of troops toward Richmond is calculated to produce sickness among all; and it would be preferable to select camps for brigades separately, where good water, ground, &c., would afford pure air and convenient camps.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

JULY 28, 1862—7.30 a. m.

General S. G. FRENCH:

GENERAL: Will you please have Walker's and Daniel's brigades ordered to prepare three days' rations, and have ambulances, litters, &c., all ready. I want to move to-morrow night. The thing can be managed quietly. We might hint at an expedition to Suffolk.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 28, 1862.

General J. G. MARTIN:

GENERAL: I observe by paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 172, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, that your resignation as brigadier-general Provisional Army of the Confederate States has been accepted by the President. I very much regret that the tender of your resignation did not pass through my hands, as I wished at least to have the matter suspended for the present. What I wish to know is whether you could not retain your position and duties in the Confederate service in addition to those appertaining to your State office. I would desire that you should be placed in immediate command of the forces within the lines of the State of North Carolina, so that General Hill would be enabled to give the most of his time and attention to the troops in Virginia, and especially those along James River.

Please inform me at your earliest convenience whether the arrangement I propose is compatible with your views, and oblige, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 165. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 28, 1862.

* * * * * * *

IX. Evans' and Drayton's brigades, of Major-General Pemberton's army, under command of the senior brigadier, will report to Maj. Gen. J. Longstreet, to be encamped and kept together for the present as a distinct organization.

* * * * * * *

XIV. The following troops are assigned to and will constitute the brigades of cavalry, under command of Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart:

First Brigade, Brig. Gen. Wade Hampton commanding: First North Carolina Cavalry (Col. L. S. Baker), Cobb Legion Cavalry (Lieut. Col. P. M. B. Young), Jeff. Davis Legion (Lieut. Col. W. T. Martin), Hampton Legion Cavalry (Major Butler), Tenth Virginia Cavalry (Lieutenant-Colonel Magruder).

Second Brigade, Brig. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee: First Virginia Cavalry (Col. L. Tiernan Brien), Third Virginia Cavalry (Col. Thomas F. Goode), Fourth Virginia Cavalry (Col. W. C. Wickham), Fifth Virginia Cavalry (Col. T. L. Rosser), Ninth Virginia Cavalry (Col. W. H. F. Lee).

By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 29, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Major-General Holmes was several times requested to send over to the regiment a squadron of the First North Carolina Cavalry, Colonel Baker commanding, which from some cause was detained

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south of the river. The commanding general desires that you will cause those two companies to join their regiment.

I am, general, respectfully, your obedient servant,

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 30, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires that you will send an officer after your wagon train, and cause the excess of transportation over regulation allowance to be sent back to Lieutenant-Colonel Corley, chief quartermaster of this army. The division is reported by inspector of transportation to have 102 wagons and 416 animals in excess.

By order of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. [DEPARTMENT] OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 31, 1862.

Capt. W. P. SMITH,
Engineer Corps:

CAPTAIN: I am directed by General Lee to say that he desires the line of defenses extending from the river on this side prosecuted with the utmost vigor. By information just received from General Ripley it appears that he has a force of laborers ready to proceed with the works between the Charles City and the Darbytown road, but says that the line is not marked out, and requests that the proper engineer officer should communicate with him. Give the necessary assistance and instructions, and let the work be immediately commenced.

General Longstreet's command supplies the force engaged between the river and the Darbytown road.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 31, 1862.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy:

SIR: The land part of the defenses at Drewry's Bluff has as yet no guns upon it. Can any be spared from the Navy for that purpose? I have heard that there are six 8-inch guns on the Patrick Henry. If these can be spared they would serve to add much to the strength of the defenses, as they would render the land point very formidable. I would be glad to hear from you on the subject. I regret to learn that you have been unable as yet to make the iron throats for two of the guns now in position.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

[R. E. LEE,]
General.

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 31, 1862.

Col. THOMAS S. RHETT,
Commanding Richmond Defenses:

I desire barbette guns to be mounted in commanding positions in the works on the south side of the river, and wish you to report at once whether to effect this it will be necessary to strip entirely the batteries on the north side. I would prefer, if it is possible, to keep some of the barbette guns at commanding points in these batteries. The siege guns can be moved to the south side later, if needed, as the same preparation would not be necessary for them. Please state what is the best disposition you can make both of the barbette guns and those on siege carriages.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[R. E. LEE,]
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 1, 1862.

Maj. Gen. JAMES LONGSTREET,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The communication* of Col. John V. Moore, commanding Second Brigade, referred to me by you, is received. It presents a state of affairs in his command greatly to be regretted. It is useless to rely on pickets to prevent men from leaving their commands, and it can only be accomplished by employing a guard around the encampment. I desire that you will take every necessary step to enforce discipline, and I think that under the circumstances of this case you had better write to General Jenkins to return to his command. Under orders issued from these headquarters transportation is not given to discharged soldiers of this army except upon orders from myself, and I feel confident that there must be some mistake in the charge against Captain Wood, who is very particular in the discharge of his duties. Passports are no doubt obtained by fraudulent and false representations. In cases of discharge of men by reason of being beyond the age of thirty-five years the officer giving the discharge is required to certify the age of the party from the muster rolls. As to the acts said to have been perpetrated by Maule, in enlisting men belonging to this brigade, I shall bring the matter to the attention of the Department for investigation at once. With regard to the 80 men who are reported as having left camp, alleging that they had enlisted in a cavalry company to serve in Western Virginia and had received furloughs for that reason and transportation to South Carolina, I presume that was merely the assertion of the men themselves; but that so large a number of men should leave the battalion without the knowledge of the officers commanding and that no report was made until the next day indicates an exceedingly lax state of things in the command, inviting the serious attention of their superiors.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 1 [?], 1862.

Maj. Gen. J. E. B. STUART,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The report* of Lieutenant-Colonel Young of the operations of his command at Haxall's Landing and Malvern Hill is received. I desire that you will express to Lieutenant-Colonel Young my sense of the courage and efficiency which marked the conduct of himself, his officers and men, and of the success which attended his efforts against a superior force of the enemy. Colonel Young has performed the duty assigned to him in a manner creditable to himself and his command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 2, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: A letter from General McClellan informs me that our prisoners at Fort Warren were to leave that place July 31 on the steamer Ocean Queen for James River; also that the prisoners from Fort Delaware were expected at Westover in a day or two. In firing on the enemy's fleet in the river caution will be necessary, so as not to inflict loss on the returning prisoners.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. E. LEE,
General.

AUGUST 3, 1862.

General S. G. FRENCH:

GENERAL: I think that one brigade would be sufficient below. The enemy has doubtless landed in force for permanent occupancy of the ground opposite his camp. We cannot drive him from there and can only check him from going too far into the country.

He may mean to advance upon this place, but I think not for some days; hence we need our strength employed on the fortifications. I would prefer, therefore, that one brigade be halted before it advances too far.

I am opposed to an engagement on an uncertainty in regard to the strength of our enemy.

Yours, truly,
D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 3, 1862—8 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Your letter† of 9.30 a. m. has been received. The landing

* The only report on file is that on p. 958, Series I, Vol. XI, Part II.
† Not found.

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of the force opposite Westover may be to prevent annoyance from our artillery, or it may be, as you suppose, the commencement of the advance on the south side of the river. If the former they can be driven away, and if the latter they can be resisted as well on that side of the river as on this. The news from Norfolk may or may not be true; but we must set to work vigorously to prepare to arrest their progress. I wish you to examine the ground and see how this can best be done. I will send Lieutenant-Colonel Stevens to make an examination of the country, and I wish you to ascertain what force of laborers can be drawn from North Carolina. In regard to harassing the enemy by cutting off his communications, his occupancy of the south side will render it more difficult; but even the attempt seems to have caused him to divide his forces, and I hope that on one side or the other of the river may be demolished. The removal of General Anderson from his present position would stop the construction of the defenses of Drewry's Bluff, which it will be imprudent to do at this time. The stand for riflemen at City Point which you recommended to be intrenched could surely be accomplished by the troops at Petersburg. General Pendleton can remain for the present if he is needed.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

AUGUST 3, 1862—8 p. m.

General WILLIAM N. PENDLETON,
Commanding Artillery:

GENERAL: It seems to me that something ought to be done with the gunboat before day. If it is not got off by the high tide, an enterprising officer with his battery can surely destroy it. If we do not move till daylight, the gunboats from below will be up and prevent an assault.

Yours, truly,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

AUGUST 3, 1862—11 p. m.

General D. H. HILL, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: Toward sunset there was much firing below from a battery at the gunboat and from one or more gunboats. Either all has been done against her that can be or she is off by the high tide and the aid of the other boats.

Colonel Cutts started as soon as possible after the dispatch came, which was strangely delayed, and but for the mistake of the dispatch saying the attack was to be on the other side, where the road is execrable and a guide had to be waited for, he would have been at City Point in time to do all that could have been done. As it really was, to send him on seemed a hopeless tax upon energies of men and horses. Now it would be impossible, with all enterprise, to get there before day.

If your note were an order I would send a battery at once; but understanding it as only expressing your view, with some facts not before your mind, discretion seems intended to be left me, and it really appears to me unwise now to send the battery.

Yours, very truly,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General, &c.

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,
August 3, 1862—12 midnight.

Major-General ANDERSON,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Have just returned, and hasten to inclose accompanying papers, as requested by Major Mills.

I got to Ray's [Rhea's] Bluff about 5 p. m. and found there a 4-gun gunboat ashore, as near as, maybe, 4,000 feet off from hill-sides.

As I reached the point two inferior 6-pounders from Captain Ruffin's battery arrived. I put them in position and caused fire to be opened. The guns were not equal to the occasion, but did some injury to the vessel. I saw with my glasses where three balls took effect. The gunboat replied, killing one horse and wounding another in the battery. In the mean while a couple of tugs and another gunboat came to her assistance and she got off the bottom.

I left these two pieces about 1 mile in rear, where I met the battery which I had ordered down from your division, with directions to the two to return to river banks and reopen fire upon this or any other gunboat in the morning, should an available opportunity present.

All this has been done in pursuance of what I understand to be the spirit of General Hill's instructions to you, and not that I would wish to be understood as inaugurating on my own account the policy of attacking gunboats with ordinary field pieces.

I am, general, very respectfully,

WILLIAM MAHONE,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 4, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: It is reported that the enemy are seizing wood on the banks of the James and Appomattox Rivers. Please cause all the wood in the wood-yards accessible to their boats to be burned where it is possible to do so, unless it can be removed and appropriated to the benefit of its owners or our Army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 4, 1862.

Col. L. B. NORTHROP,
Chief Commissary, C. S. Army:

COLONEL: While I recognize the necessity of enlarging your force in order to accomplish the object mentioned in my letter* of the 30th ultimo, I must beg you to do this, if possible, without reducing the rank and file of the army. A large number of the best soldiers in the Army have been discharged under the conscript act in the last few weeks, and these discharges are made daily. It may be possible to

*Not found.

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obtain all the force which you wish from among these men by active and immediate efforts. If this cannot be done, then the details will be made from the Army, as a sufficient supply of bread is an absolute necessity in our operations. I hope the number of such details will be as limited as possible, and that every effort will be made to obtain all the force required outside the Army.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 4, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina, &c.:

GENERAL: General Lee desires me to inform you that Lieutenant-Colonel Stevens, Engineer Corps, has been ordered to Petersburg to make an examination of the country and establish a line of works for the defense of that position. He requests that you will afford Colonel Stevens all the assistance you can with the forces and means you may have at your command.

Your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 4, 1862.

Col. THOMAS S. RHETT,
Inspector of Ordnance:

COLONEL: Your letter* with regard to the disposition of the guns on the works on the south side of the river has been received. The arrangement which you contemplate for the short 32-pounders is satisfactory. There are, however, no doubt, commanding points in those works on the south side in which it will be best to place barbette guns taken from this side. Hence I would prefer some of these guns to be removed to such positions as may be selected at commanding points on the other side of the river. If there are such please let me know the number and caliber of the barbette guns on the north side, and whether or not it would be advantageous to transfer some of them to the south side.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS, *August* 4, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

GENERAL: I am very reluctant to spare any troops from here at this time while from every quarter the enemy is congregating around us. Still De Gournay's battalion may be of more service at Port Hudson

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*Not found.

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than here, and we must take the risk. It had better, therefore, be sent if men cannot be obtained there. General Loring has been very importunate for re-enforcements, but I have not been able to see that he is seriously threatened, or how he could use them unless he had sufficient force to drive the enemy from the Kanawha Valley. Starke's regiment—raised in that country and could probably be recruited there—had better be sent if re-enforcements are necessary. The North Carolina regiments, though not as serviceable, could then be brought here. Col. J. Lucius Davis was written to on the 30th ultimo, through the post-office in Richmond, stating that the Special Order, No. —, directing him to report to General Loring, was suspended. I have not heard from him, but Colonel Chilton saw him in the city yesterday, and I learn he was seen there to-day. I have sent him an order to report in person to me. If any one in the Adjutant-General's Office can see him it had better be done, as I do not know where to find him.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 172. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August* 4, 1862.

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VII. Lieut. Col. J. F. Gilmer, Engineer Corps, having reported, agreeably to Special Orders, No. 161, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, is assigned to duty as chief of his department, and will take charge of and conduct all of its operations.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, *August* 5, 1862.

General JUBAL A. EARLY,
Commanding Brigade, &c.:

GENERAL: Your letter* of the 23d ultimo has just been received. I regret that you consider yourself unassigned to a command. I had hoped that your present command was agreeable to you. The service is important, requiring an officer of intelligence and capacity, and I know of no one to whom the brigade could be better intrusted than yourself. I consider, too, from your knowledge of the country and people, that you were peculiarly qualified for the duty, and congratulated myself that you were available. From the many changes constantly occurring in the service, arising from causes beyond my control, it is difficult for me to consider any position more permanent than another. Your present brigade, it is true, was last commanded by General Elzey, and upon his restoration to duty it may be considered proper to assign him to it. But you surely would be considered entitled to another command, nor can General Orders, No. 47, in my opinion, apply to yourself or Generals Elzey and E. Johnson, inasmuch as your original brigades are in service. On entering upon duty with this army

*Not found.

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I found your former brigade under the command of General Garland. In carrying out the policy of the Government of brigading the regiments by States, the two Virginia regiments were transferred, the one to Kemper, the other to Armistead, with a view of forming Virginia brigades, and North Carolina regiments were added to the Sixth and Twenty-third North Carolina Regiments to form a North Carolina brigade. I am ignorant of the abundant opportunities to which you refer for providing you with a command that have been neglected, unless you allude to the appointment by the President of commanders to certain vacant brigades and of vacancies still existing in others. I wished to assign you to the command of a Virginia brigade, nor did I consider the command of either of those that have been filled would be as agreeable to you as your present command. The numerous vacancies that have occurred have taken much time for the selection of officers to fill them, nor is it yet done. I can only assure you that confidence in your zeal and ability has been increased instead of diminished by your service, and that the honorable wound you received at Williamsburg in the defense of your country is viewed as a badge of distinction and claim for high consideration instead of crime, as you suppose.

I am, with high esteem, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
August 5, 1862.

General D. H. HILL, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: The dispatch from City Point which you requested General French to hand me I have considered with care, and have sought all the information within my reach.

Colonel Brown and General Ransom, both of whom know the ground well, thoroughly concur in the views expressed by Colonel Cutts and Major Lewis, that in the actual contour of the ground and position of the gunboats there is not the remotest rational prospect of damaging the grounded gunboat without the probable destruction of every gun, with men and horses, that we get into position for the purpose.

The whole space where our guns must stand is exposed to a triple fire, direct and cross, from a number of gunboats that can take any position they please, and within 600 or 800 yards, while for 2 or 3 miles entering or getting out our guns must bear the raking fire of all these boats.

With this universal testimony I have not doubted an instant that, seeing the gunboat is comparatively worthless, and our guns, horses, and men are so valuable, to run so great a risk of losing these is not warranted by the remote possibility of destroying that. In this judgment you will, I hope, concur.

Yours, truly,

W. N. PENDLETON.

LEE'S HEADQUARTERS,
August 6, 1862.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Hood's division on Mechanicsville road and R. H. Anderson's at

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Drewry's Bluff. Courier starting down with Stuart's telegraph to General Lee.

R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 7, 1862.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. HOOD,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires that you will move your command over to the Brooke turnpike, taking position near Brooke River, having especial care for all standing crops and against damaging private property or depredating in any manner by men of your command. Throw forward a strong picket to the Chickahominy Bridge. A company of Critcher's cavalry battalion has been ordered to report to you, which can picket in front of your infantry. Major-General R. H. Anderson has been ordered to hold himself in readiness to cross the river if the necessity therefor should arise. This movement is ordered in consequence of reported movement of enemy in considerable force by the Telegraph road toward Richmond.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
New Market, Va., August 7, 1862.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: If it has not been done, I recommend a general order to be at once published directing all exchanged officers among the returned prisoners of war belonging to the Army of Northern Virginia, Valley District, and the Department of North Carolina at once to report to the respective commanders of each, the rest to your office; or perhaps all had better report to your office; then you can order them as they belong and as soon as exchanged.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
New Market, Va., August 7, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I request that you will spare no effort in urging on the works at Drewry's Bluff to a speedy completion, as it may become necessary to withdraw your command for service in the field, and it is of the utmost importance that the defensive works should [be] finished before that is done.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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HEADQUARTERS,
New Market, Va., August 7, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Your letter* of the 5th was received this morning. I regret to hear of the feeble conduct of your cavalry. Who is its commander and what is its strength? I hope you will see to its organization and instruction. The gunboat ought to have been destroyed. It may be too late to attack it now; but if not, try it with incendiary shells. You must endeavor to make your present division superior to your former, and I have great confidence of your accomplishing it.

I hope you will lose no opportunity of damaging the enemy in every way. I fear I shall have to recall Pendleton soon. His command requires his presence, and his guns are wanted here now. His batteries may also be wanted around Richmond. The enemy appear extremely active, and are making their appearance at all points bearing on the city. Push on your defenses at Petersburg and around Drewry's Bluff. I wish to have Anderson's division liberated. It is wanted now. Get all the free black and slave labor you can, and if you can accomplish anything against the enemy at Coggins Point or his communication by the river do so at the earliest favorable moment.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 8, 1862.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. HOOD,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I desire you to prepare your two brigades to proceed to Hanover Junction as soon as practicable. I do not know your encampment, but if you will designate the nearest point on the railroad where the train can take you up and where a portion of your force will be ready I will have the cars at the spot. You must make arrangements for your sick. Your very sick can be sent to the hospitals in Richmond. The others I hope will be well enough to accompany you. Take your wagon train and batteries. They must march.

Very truly and respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 8, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Your letter* of the 7th is received, and in reply General Lee directs me to say that he does not think the enemy will make any serious attempt upon Petersburg. Should he land at Bailey's Creek it will be to threaten you, as he has just done at Malvern Hill, to cover some other design. He, however, recommends that you should be

*Not found.

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prepared to take advantage of any opportunity the enemy may afford you to strike him successfully.

In regard to the bridges across the Appomattox River, the general suggests that the different railroad bridges be planked over, so that they may serve at least for infantry. There is a second-hand bridge at the mills, which in case of need might be used for crossing troops, &c. If these bridges are not deemed sufficient it would be well to make arrangements for pontoon bridges, which can be easily constructed across so narrow a river.

The general wishes to know what brigades are without brigadiers, and whom you would propose to have appointed to them.

Colonel Gilmer, Chief of the Engineer Corps, has been ordered to visit Petersburg, for the purpose of examining the defenses, &c. He will doubtless give you great assistance. All of the negro laborers that have been collected about here are now engaged on the works on this side of the river and cannot be spared for any other purpose. It is hoped that you can get enough negroes from Southern Virginia and North Carolina for your purposes about Petersburg. Two rifled 32-pounder guns on field carriages have been ordered to you; also 800 spades and 100 axes have been sent to you, subject to the orders of Major Stevens, or the chief engineer engaged on the defenses of Petersburg.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 8, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Your communication* of this date has been received. As the position at the crossing of the White Oak Swamp on the Charles City road seems to be a good one, you can for the present keep the two regiments and a battery there. You must, at the same time, picket strongly at the shops, as you propose to do. This will give you time to see if any change for the better can be made, or if a strong position farther down cannot be found.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 8, 1862.

Brig. Gen. R. S. RIPLEY,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Our experience of the past few days teaches the importance of having the Charles City road better cared for. I wish you would station a regiment on it. It will serve to support the cavalry and give it more stability. A section of artillery, if you think fit, had better form part of the force. The best position, perhaps, would be at

* Not found.

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Riddle's shops (or near there). But the health and comfort of the troops should be consulted in establishing their camp, and a picket, changed every twenty-four hours, could be established at the most commanding point. The regiment should at least be as far advanced as the waters of White Oak Swamp. If you cannot select the point yourself, send a judicious colonel for the first tour of duty. Let him take tools, &c., and throw up some breastworks, &c., for the protection of the troops at the point where they can make the best defense. Breastworks of logs, abatis, &c., could be used in prolonging the line through the woods. The regiment could be changed weekly if you desire it, to lighten the duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 8, 1862.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: Will you please inform me whether the recommendations for promotion to fill vacancies in the army have yet been acted upon? The want of officers of proper rank render many regiments and companies inefficient; regiments being in some cases under the command of captains and many companies without their proper complement of officers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[R. E. LEE,]
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 8, 1862.

Messrs. ROBBINS, COOK, BLACKBURN, AND OTHERS,
Citizens of Gloucester County:

GENTLEMEN: General Lee directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication* with reference to the condition of affairs in Gloucester County. The general regrets very much that he is unable to extend to the different portions of the country now exposed to the ravages of the enemy the protection that he would desire to give; but in the present posture of affairs those sections which the enemy can reach by water, at a distance from the main body of our army, must, from the nature of the circumstances, be more or less exposed. To send a small body of troops to your county might suffice to protect you for a time against such expeditions as the enemy send out, but it would only result in drawing a larger force, who would come with the expectation of capturing our troops, and as the enemy on the water possess such great advantages in rapidly concentrating troops, we would either have to retire or endeavor to support them, a thing that cannot now be done. The result would be that the enemy would come in a larger body and their ravages would be more extensive and ruinous.

The general can see no relief for you at present except the organiza-

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tion of a corps of rangers, permission to raise which you can get by recommending a suitable person for appointment to raise and command them. These rangers are paid like other troops, and if properly organized may do much service by making it necessary for the enemy to come in greater force, which he would be less likely to do, and making him move about in larger bodies, which would diminish very much his power to plunder. These rangers also receive pay from the Government for all arms, &c., they capture from the enemy. The general also earnestly advises the removal of slaves, cattle, horses, &c., from the enemy's reach. Horses, mules, cattle, forage, &c., will all certainly be taken by the enemy, and the owners can easily sell to the Government or individuals all serviceable animals and other property they have or to individuals living beyond the enemy's reach. Patriotism and interest alike demand that every man should endeavor to remove everything that can be of service to the enemy, who are now under orders from the President of the Washington Government to subsist their army upon the country.

Should you conclude to raise a partisan corps you should select a trustworthy person to command, and get the men in the surrounding counties. The advantage of such a corps is, that the members are regularly in service, and entitled to be treated as prisoners of war and have the benefit of exchange, which is not the case with unorganized volunteers, usually called guerrillas.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully,

CHARLES MARSHALL,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 9, 1862.

Maj. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Your note* of the 8th instant is received, and in reply the commanding general desires me to say that he approves of the course you have taken with your working parties, encamping them near the works upon which they are engaged. He is anxious that the works should be progressed as rapidly as possible. The order requiring you to keep your command in readiness to move is suspended for the present.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 177. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 9, 1862.

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III. Col. W. H. Jenifer will report for duty to Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart as inspector of cavalry of the Department of Northern Virginia, subject to the instructions of General Stuart.

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V. Major-General McLaws' division will relieve Major-General Longstreet's command in its present duties, sending a brigade at once to relieve Brig. Gen. D. R. Jones at New Market.

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By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 10, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: I am desired by General Lee to inform you that he wishes an artillery force organized under Colonel Brown, under the direction of General Pendleton, for service or your side of the river (James), and General Pendleton with the remainder of the reserve artillery to return immediately to this side of James River.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[A. L. LONG,]
Colonel and Military Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 178. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 10, 1862.

I. Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith, having reported for duty, is assigned to the division composed of the brigades commanded by Brigadier-Generals Rodes, Garland, G. B. Anderson, Ripley, and Colonel Colquitt.

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By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 11, 1862.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

GENERAL: I am informed by General Longstreet that all the conscripts that have arrived from South Carolina have been assigned to General Kershaw's brigade, McLaws' division, and that they constitute nearly all that will arrive from the State. The other South Carolina brigades will consequently be without recruits. I had desired that they should have been divided between Kershaw's and Jenkins' brigades, to equalize them with the others from the State as far as possible. Please inform me if it can be so arranged without injury to the service.

I am very anxious that the vacancies among the regimental officers should be filled as soon as possible. Some of the regiments are now moving, and it is of great importance that they should have, if possible, their complement of officers, many being absent sick. Recruits are

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arriving for some of the regiments that remain, which also require all their officers. Can this be attended to to-day? All the reports and recommendations on this subject have been forwarded to your office that have been received by me.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 179. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August* 11, 1862.

I. Brigadier-General Pettigrew, having reported for duty, is assigned to command of the brigade now commanded by Col. Junius Daniel, of Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill's command, to whom he will report.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Lee:

[R. H. CHILTON,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 12, 1862.

Maj. Gen. G. W. SMITH,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: It is reported to these headquarters that the enemy is advancing by the way of Malvern Hill. General Lee directs me to say that he desires you to proceed at once to New Market, and make such disposition of your troops as may be necessary to oppose the enemy and drive him back.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 12, 1862.

Col. JOHN S. PRESTON, *Columbia, S. C.:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that you will do all in your power toward collecting and forwarding to Richmond the men subject to military duty under the act of Congress of April 16, 1862. The regiments from South Carolina are much reduced by sickness and battle, and it is highly important that their depleted ranks should be filled. General Orders, No. 30, from the office of the Adjutant and Inspector General, directs that assignments, when made at camps of instruction, shall be proportioned among all the regiments of the State.

By letter of yesterday's date the honorable Secretary of War informs me that the conscripts from South Carolina have been ordered here, and that the entire subject of assignment has been committed to me. As soon, therefore, as you will forward them to Richmond I will order them to the several regiments from the State, in accordance with the instructions received from the Department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 12, 1862.

General D. H. HILL, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The resignation of General Martin has not been accepted, and he has been directed by the Department to report to me for duty. I have instructed him to report to you for further orders, and desire you to assign him to the command of the troops in the State of North Carolina. I wish him to render all the assistance in his power toward collecting and enrolling the men in the State liable to military duty, so that the ranks of the North Carolina regiments may be speedily recruited. After this the surplus should be collected at camps of instruction and organized and prepared for active service in the field.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS, *August* 12, 1862.

General FITZ. LEE,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade:

GENERAL: It is so difficult to procure forage at Hanover Court-House I would suggest you change your position to where it can be more conveniently obtained. In the event of your seeing an opportunity to strike a favorable blow at the enemy, provided he comes within your reach, you are authorized to do so. It is desirable that your horses should not be exhausted, and that you should not leave uncovered the approach to the railroad or Richmond.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

P. S.—Applications will be made to the superintendent of the telegraph line for an operator.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Major Lewis' battery of 32-pounders is, I fear, too much exposed on the other side of the Appomattox, being difficult to remove. I desire them to be returned again this side of the James, and Major Lewis ordered to report to General Pendleton.

I thought the 32-pounders alluded to in your telegram were those sent by Colonel Rhett for the defenses on the Appomattox.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 13, 1862.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: I desire you to select from the troops under your com-

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mand some of your most reliable and intelligent men and send them down the south side of James River, to watch the movements of the enemy and ascertain the truthfulness of the report made by the English deserter of the embarkation of a part of McClellan's army. It is of the first importance that I should be advised positively on this point, as our own movements must be in a measure regulated by those of that army. The scouts that you send should remain in the vicinity of the enemy, watch their movements narrowly and unceasingly, and report immediately anything of importance that should occur.

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to send herewith the regimental colors of the Twelfth Regiment New York Volunteers, taken by General Longstreet's division in the late battles before Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 13, 1862.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. HOOD,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: Having received information that Burnside's forces have left Fredericksburg to join Pope, unless you know to the contrary I desire you to march at once with your command to Gordonsville and report to General Longstreet.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 13, 1862.

General STUART,
Commanding Cavalry:

I am directed by General Lee to say that he has been informed that the force which was at Fredericksburg under General Burnside has joined that under General Pope. He desires you to ascertain the truthfulness of this report, and if it is found to be so he wishes you to leave a sufficient cavalry force in your present front to observe the movements of the enemy, afford protection to the railroad, &c., and to move with the main body of the cavalry now with you to Gordonsville, and report for duty to Major-General Longstreet in event of his absence.

I am, &c.,

W. H. TAYLOR,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 181. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August* 13, 1862.

* * * * * * *

VI. Major-General Longstreet, with his command, consisting of Kemper's, Jenkins', Pickett's, Wilcox's, Pryor's, Featherston's, D. R. Jones', Toombs', Drayton's, and Evans' brigades, will proceed without delay by cars of Virginia Central Railroad to Gordonsville, making his requisitions upon the staff departments for transportation and all supplies required for efficient service of his troops in the field.

VII. Brigadier-General Hood, with his command, consisting of Whiting's and Hood's brigades, will proceed by Fredericksburg Railroad to Hanover Junction, and there, selecting an eligible camp, hold his command in readiness for field service.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Lee:

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 182. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *August* 14, 1862.

* * * * * * *

II. The First Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel [T. J.] Glover, and the Twenty-second Regiment South Carolina Volunteers, Colonel [S. D.] Goodlett, will proceed by railroad to Gordonsville and report to Major-General Longstreet.

* * * * * * *

V. The Fifty-seventh North Carolina Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Jones, will proceed to Drewry's Bluff and report to Brigadier-General Martin for assignment to a brigade by General D. H. Hill.

VI. The Forty-second North Carolina Regiment, Col. George C. Gibbs commanding, will proceed to Drewry's Bluff and report to Brigadier-General Martin for assignment to a brigade by General D. H. Hill.

* * * * * * *

VIII. The company of cavalry at present guarding prisoners at Belle Isle are hereby relieved, and will report for duty to Maj. Gen. D. H. Hill, commanding Department of North Carolina, at Petersburg, Va.

* * * * * * *

By command of General Lee:

_____ _____,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS, NEAR RICHMOND, VA., *August* 14, 1862. (Received August 16, 1862.)

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

GENERAL: Your letter of this date is received.* From every indication it appears that McClellan's forces on James River are being withdrawn and sent to re-enforce Pope. Under these circumstances I

* Not found.

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think it will be necessary to withdraw R. H. Anderson's division from Drewry's Bluff and send it in the direction of Gordonsville. Colonel Gibb's regiment and the Fifty-seventh North Carolina Regiment (Colonel [H. C.] Jones) had better be ordered for the present to that point. In case Anderson is removed these troops will serve for the defense of Drewry's Bluff; and since they are new, they can be drilled and accustomed to camp, &c.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE
General.

HEADQUARTERS, *August* 14, 1862—9 a. m.
(Received August 16, 1862.)

General JAMES LONGSTREET,
Commanding, &c., Gordonsville, Va.:

GENERAL: Your note of 6.30 p. m. yesterday is just received. At this distance, without knowing the position or strength of the enemy, it is impossible for me to decide the question you propose. I incline, however, to the right-flank movement. The easiest way of accomplishing that I should prefer. You, being on the spot, with all information before you and the benefit of consultation with officers acquainted with the ground and circumstances, must use your own judgment and determine.

As soon as I learned yesterday that Burnside had left Fredericksburg I ordered Hood to march and report to you. Send him word to what point to direct his march. You can stop the troops in transit from here at Louisa, if you think fit, and direct them to move toward the Rappahannock.

I have directed Stuart to get ready his cavalry to move on. I have proposed, as I informed you when here, to send Stuart by the right to sweep around by the enemy's rear and cut his communications when we get ready to move, keeping Jackson's cavalry on our left and in the enemy's front to disguise the movement. Is there any objection to this? If so, Stuart must be directed otherwise. I mention this because in your letter, after speaking of the movement forward, you say "the cavalry will be necessary on the other flank," by which I infer you mean the left. It is all-important that our movement, in whatever direction it is determined, should be as quick as possible. I fear General Pope can be re-enforced quicker than ourselves; prepare accordingly. Order the transportation of the respective brigades to the point on the railroad you wish the troops to halt.

I had arranged to leave in the cars to-morrow morning at 4 o'clock to join you. Let me know where I shall find you. I should like, if convenient, to see Jackson, too.

Most respectfully and truly, yours,

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1862.

Brig. Gen. JOHN B. HOOD,
Commanding Division, &c.:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Lee to say that orders have been sent you both by telegraph and courier to proceed at once to join

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General Longstreet. He has been informed of your advance and will inform me to what point you will proceed. It is presumed you will be directed to march to some point on the Rapidan above the Germanna Mills, about Raccoon Ford.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 14, 1862.

General GUSTAVUS W. SMITH,
Commanding Division, &c.:

GENERAL: I propose joining that portion of the Army of Northern Virginia now under General Longstreet, and expect to leave here to-morrow. In my absence you will be the senior officer with this wing of the army, and I request you to direct its operations. For all purposes connected with the defense of Richmond, James River, its approaches, &c., you will give directions to Generals D. H. Hill and R. H. Anderson, stationed on the south side of James River. General D. H. Hill is in command of the Department of North Carolina, which has been extended from the Cape Fear to the James River, and that army has been united to this. From your general knowledge of the affairs of this army, its objects and position, I deem no instructions necessary beyond the necessity of holding Richmond to the last extremity, should any attack be made upon it. The lines of defense on both sides of the river must be completed as soon as possible, and every attention given to the organization, instruction, and discipline of the troops. Tri-monthly returns of the troops are required by existing orders, and I wish you would cause a consolidated return of the four divisions with you to be forwarded to me. Should you be able to ascertain whether General McClellan is diminishing his force at his present position please let me know, and to what points they are being sent. It may be necessary in that event to reduce our own force correspondingly or to withdraw it entirely. I wish you to keep this contingency constantly in view. Generals D. H. Hill and Hampton have instructions to keep out scouts and to use every means in their power to ascertain General McClellan's movements. Lieut. Col. E. P. Alexander has undertaken measures to the same end.

I am, with high respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

P. S.—My headquarters will first be at Gordonsville.

R. E. L.

HEADQUARTERS, *August* 14, 1862.

Maj. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: I desire you to prepare your division to proceed to Gordonsville as soon as transportation can be furnished on the railroad. Your wagons and artillery will march, and can be placed on the road

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as soon as ready. I need not call to your attention the necessity of restricting the baggage of your division according to existing orders. Your transportation will necessarily be restricted to the standard established, and all surplus baggage wagons and teams must be turned in to the quartermaster's department. Your personal attention is requested to this matter. I suggest that you take summer tents or flies in such number as may be actually necessary to cover your men.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

GORDONSVILLE, VA., *August* 15, 1862.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

Please put General R. H. Anderson's division in motion to-morrow. Direct him to halt at Louisa Court-House; orders will meet him there. I move to-morrow toward Rapidan.

R. E. LEE.

[Indorsement.]

To the ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

If the order has not been given, let it be done immediately and all the arrangements be made.

[JEFFERSON DAVIS.]

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
August 15, 1862—10 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: The inclosed order has just been received, with a copy for General Anderson, which is sent direct to him to avoid delay.

The major-general commanding instructs me to say that he desires you at once to supply from your command the troops necessary to occupy the positions now held by General Anderson.

The division of General Smith will be moved nearer to the pontoon bridge, and will take position so as to be advanced readily, either to the support of General McLaws or of your troops, in case of attack.

For the protection of the fortifications at Drewry's Bluff, and the completion of the lines of intrenchments already commenced on that side, it is thought that at least 3,000 effective men will be requisite to supply the place of General Anderson's division. The matter, however, is intrusted to your judgment. The at present limited information of the major-general commanding in regard to the disposition of your forces would not enable him to give more explicit directions, even if he deemed it necessary.

He requests that you will at the earliest moment inform him as to your action in this matter, as well as fully in regard to the dispositions of your troops.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

SAML. W. MELTON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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[Inclosure.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 190. } *Richmond, August* 15, 1862.

* * * * * * *

XXVIII. Maj. Gen. R. H. Anderson will proceed with his command, with the least possible delay, to Louisa Court-House, Va., where he will halt and await further orders from the commanding general.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Randolph's House, August 16, 1862—1 p. m.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Commanding, Petersburg, &c.:

GENERAL: Your note of to-day is just received. It is not intended to give up Petersburg. I supposed that Martin's brigade was a part of Anderson's division, and that the orders from the War Department removed all the troops protecting the batteries at Drewry's Bluff.

Please send me, as soon as possible, the statement of your forces and disposition of troops asked for in my note of last night. I have no information to go upon. If you can't furnish the troops without giving up Petersburg, do not send them.

Please direct General Martin to report all matters of interest concerning the movements of the enemy to me, and between us we must take care of Drewry's Bluff batteries and the obstructions.

Did you receive my letter of yesterday morning, sent by Colonel Gilmer?

Can you meet me either here or at Drewry's any time within a day or two?

Yours, very truly,

G. W. SMITH,
Major-General.

GATES' MILL, ON FALLING CREEK,
Near Richmond, Va., August 16, 1862.

Col. R. H. CHILTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters D. N. Va.:

COLONEL: In reply to the inquiries of the commanding-general I have the honor to report that I yesterday accompanied Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith and Colonel Gilmer in an inspection of the field works at and near Drewry's Bluff. It will require another week to complete these works, and Colonel Gilmer thinks that those near the bluff need strengthening by some additions and by deepening and enlarging the ditches. The main force is now engaged upon the works on the extreme right, resting on Proctor's Creek. If the additions suggested by Colonel Gilmer are carried out, it will require, I think, as much as ten days or two weeks to complete the whole.

During the past excessively hot weather I have required only eight hours' work a day from the troops. I will increase the time to ten hours.

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I beg respectfully to refer you to Colonel Gilmer for his opinions and suggestions.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. ANDERSON,
Major-General, Provisional Army.

PETERSBURG, VA., *August* 16, 1862.

General S. COOPER,
Richmond, Va.:

A lieutenant sent down to count the enemy's vessels reports that from 1 p. m. yesterday up to this morning 108 vessels passed down the river and 8 up; only 5 are reported with troops. The Monitor, 5 gunboats, and 4 schooners are visible at Berkeley. This has been telegraphed to General Lee.

S. G. FRENCH,
Brigadier-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *August* 16, 1862.

It is reported by my courier that the enemy have a pontoon bridge across the Chickahominy and are there in force. From three sources we have the departure of the fleet.

S. G. FRENCH,
Brigadier-General.

AUGUST 17, 1862.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

DEAR SIR: I found on getting to the telegraph office a dispatch from General Hill announcing that the enemy had gone from the south side of the river and could not be seen on the north side. I repeated the telegram to General Lee and asked if McLaws' division should not be brought to the railroad. He has not answered, and in the mean time General Smith has announced that he has ordered General McLaws to make a reconnaissance and will report the result. Armistead's brigade went up yesterday and the rest of Anderson's division will go up to-day and to-morrow. We shall probably receive definite reports before the road is clear.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, VA., *August* 17, 1862.

Major-General GUSTAVUS W. SMITH,
Commanding, &c.:

Move forward your division with the least delay practicable to re-enforce General Lee at Gordonsville. Trains will be in readiness in this city to take the troops as they arrive. I inclose a dispatch just received from General Lee, by which you will be governed in sending forward the other divisions of your command.

Very truly,

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector-General.

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RICHMOND, VA., *August* 17, 1862.

General ROBERT E. LEE,
Gordonsville, Va.:

General D. H. Hill telegraphed at 10.30 o'clock last night that "there is no enemy now on this side of the James River, and no indications of his presence on the other side." Shall we move McLaws toward the railroad?

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

RICHMOND, *August* 22, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have received your letter of 21st,* giving me authority to publish letters regarding the evacuation of Norfolk, "provided they are accompanied by your letter to General Lee written previous to that of May 3, in which a less favorable opinion of the expediency of holding Norfolk is expressed."

I cannot identify the letter alluded to by this description, and can find none on the files of the War Office corresponding to this description.

Unless this letter can be furnished me the proviso prevents my publishing any other on the subject. I beg the letter may be furnished, or the proviso withdrawn or modified.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to the President.

Can the President identify the letter more accurately than the Secretary has been able to do?

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

[Second indorsement.]

The files of the War Department would not contain a letter addressed to General Lee. General Huger's letter-book probably would. It might be obtained by application to General Lee, if the letter-book of General Huger does not contain it.

J. D.

RICHMOND, *August* 25, 1862.

Hon. GEORGE W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War:

SIR: As requested in yours of the 19th instant I send you a copy of my letter to General Lee, dated Norfolk, 29th April, 1862.

I should state that the copy of the letter I had retained was addressed to General Johnston, and indorsed "a similar letter of this date sent to

*Not found. The "letters-sent books" of the Confederate War Department during the months of June, July, and August, 1862, are not on file in the "Confederate Archives."

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General Lee; no other copy kept." The first paragraph or two may not exactly correspond with the letter forwarded to General Lee. The letter is, however, substantially the same.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

[Indorsement No. 1.]

Respectfully referred to the President. Is this the letter to General Lee referred to by the President?

G. W. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of War.

[Indorsement No. 2.]

The substance seems to be that which I recollect to have received. The letter does not seem to me to be identical.

J. D.

SECRETARY OF WAR.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORFOLK,
April 29, 1862.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I yesterday received a letter from General J. E. Johnston informing me the enemy seems preparing to attack Yorktown with a powerful artillery, and we may be compelled to abandon the Peninsula. He desires me to be prepared for such a contingency.

For a week past the enemy has kept a brigade afloat near Elizabeth City, which can move to any point on Chowan River. This force landed on the night of the 18th instant and marched on South Mills, where they were met by the Third Regiment Georgia Volunteers and four pieces of artillery and repulsed with great loss. They have been reenforced during the week and are now afloat to the south of me. If the enemy gets possession of the James River, and can have a moving force on it to land where he pleases, I do not see how I am to prevent him from landing, and if they get possession of the country west of this place, through which the railroads pass, as well as the waters on the other three sides, any escape from here is very doubtful.

It would not do to give up any part of this position, as they would at once occupy it, and I cannot begin to move the public property. The guns scattered at the different batteries could not be moved with our means in weeks, and where move them to? The ammunition could be destroyed when not wanted. As to the valuable establishment of the navy-yard, which has more public property than the rest of the country, it is not under my control, and others must determine concerning it.

I do not see what preparations I can make for the contingency, but to repel every attack as promptly as possible and defend the position as long as I can. When they have the waters on both sides of me, you can calculate how long I can hold out as well as I can.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. HUGER,
Major-General.

* For the letters to Johnston and Lee of April 29, see p. 474.

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APPENDIX.

Embracing communications, etc., received too late for insertion in proper sequence.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 35. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Rapidan, March* 25, 1862.

I. Brig. Gen. Charles S. Winder, Provisional Army of the Confederate States, is assigned to the command of the brigade now commanded by Col. George B. Anderson.

II. Brig. Gen. D. H. Hill is assigned to the command of the division now acting under his orders.

By command of General Johnston:

THOS. G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HEADQUARTERS, *Richmond, Va., April* 11, 1862.

The following order of the Governor of the State is promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, VIRGINIA,
Richmond, April 11, 1862.

The whole militia of the State having been called into service by proclamation of the Governor of March 10, 1862, such volunteers as refuse to re-enlist and are discharged from service fall at once into the militia, and must be immediately drafted into service at the points of rendezvous where such volunteers are discharged, and, if practicable, into the same companies to which they lately belonged.

By command:

WM. H. RICHARDSON,
Adjutant-General.

By order of General Lee:

T. A. WASHINGTON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE, DEPT. NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Richmond, April 16, 1862.

General PENDLETON, *Commanding Artillery:*

GENERAL: I am instructed by General Johnston to say that he wishes you to march as many of your artillery command by land to the Peninsula as you can possibly get off. The demonstrations of the enemy in that quarter are such that he deems it imperative to hurry your artillery down at once. All that you are obliged to leave can go by water.

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He directs me, further, to say that he wishes your command to march by the river road, through Williamsburg, in the direction of Lebanon Church, some 10 miles beyond.

Col. Larkin Smith, depot quartermaster-general, will furnish you with a guide.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. J. HARVIE,
Capt., Assistant Inspector-General, Dept. of Northern Virginia.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
May 6, 1862.

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that he wishes you to hold yourself in readiness to move to the rear, as he has received information that the enemy in large forces have passed through Williamsburg, and as you are 9 miles off he wishes you to send back some two or three brigades (artillery and infantry) some distance on the road, so as to be nearer to the scene of action. General Pettigrew's brigade cannot be spared, as Longstreet's division is out of ammunition and cannot find their wagons to get more. The general wishes you to give orders to Colonel Lee (commanding regiment of cavalry), and see that York River is well picketed, so as to give early information of the landing of troops or movements on the river.

Respectfully,

THOS. G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Ordnance Office, Richmond, May 25, 1862.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM N. PENDLETON,
Chief of Artillery:

GENERAL: I have been at 5, 6, 7, and 8 since 7 o'clock. Major De Gournay's battalion occupies No. 6 and has a guard at No. 5. Major Moore and Major Boggs are at No. 7, and Captain Lane with several companies is at No. 8. Two siege guns (medium navy) are on their way to No. 7; three 12-pounder rifle guns on their way to No. 6, and one 8-inch siege howitzer on its way to No. 5. Ammunition for these, of course, accompanies them. Lumber and carpenters are also moving to Nos. 6 and 7 and 5. A company from Petersburg, Captain Kevill, has just reported with four guns, two 12-pounder rifle and two 8 inch siege howitzers, but without horses.

I would like very much to see you; called at your headquarters as I was coming in. Will meet you, of course, at any place and hour you may designate. A number of the companies which came from Camp Lee have a few guns each. Would it not be well to take the guns to be located at proper points in the neighborhood of batteries, at least till the latter are prepared? It never rains but it pours; yesterday at this time I could not get a man, and now there are some 2,000 to be disposed of.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. S. RHETT,
Colonel, Commanding Battery.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 58. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *Richmond, May* 29, 1862.

The commanding general has the satisfaction to announce to the army another brilliant success won by the skill and courage of our generals and troops in the Valley.

The combined divisions of Major-Generals Jackson and Ewell, commanded by the former and constituting a part of this army, after a long, arduous, and rapid march, attacked and routed the Federal forces under Major-General Banks successively at Front Royal, Middleburg, and Winchester, taking several thousands of prisoners and an immense quantity of ammunition and stores of all descriptions. The Federal Army has been dispersed and driven ignominiously from the Valley of the Shenandoah, and those who have freed the loyal citizens of that district by their patriotic valor have again earned, as they will receive, the thanks of a grateful country.

In making this glorious announcement on the eve of the desperate struggle about to ensue, the commanding general does not deem it necessary to invoke the troops of this army to emulate the deeds of their noble comrades in the Valley. He feels already assured of their determined purpose to make illustrious in history the part they are soon to act in the impending drama.

By command of General Johnston:

THOS. G. RHETT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
Oakwood Cemetery, May 30, 1862—7.30 p. m.

General J. E. JOHNSTON,
Commanding Department of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I venture to offer a suggestion based upon some information respecting the Chickahominy River. It is said to rise immediately after a rain like this and to continue in flood some twenty-four hours. Would not this seem a providence to place all the Yankee force this side that stream almost certainly in your power? Might not an active, sudden, and adequate movement of troops to-night and at dawn in the morning so overwhelm the divisions confronting General Hill as to crush and capture them with next to certainty? I submit it with great deference. Your judgment will, I know, determine sagaciously on the subject.

Yours, most truly,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General, &c.

HEADQUARTERS,
Hughes' House, June 2, 1862.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: I regret to inform you that General Smith finds himself utterly unable to endure the mental excitement incident to his actual presence with the army. Nothing but duty under fire could possibly keep him up, and there is danger of his entire prostration. He goes to town to-day to gain a few days' respite. All business and all exciting questions must be kept from him for awhile. Major Melton will accompany him to prevent, while it is necessary, all such intrusion.

Since writing the above I have again seen the general, and am pained

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to learn that partial paralysis has already commenced. The case is critical and the danger imminent. I will add a line in a few moments in reference to general condition of affairs.

I am, general, with high regard, your most obedient servant,

JASPER S. WHITING,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General, Acting Engineer.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
Thorne's, June 12, 1862.

General PENDLETON:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inclose the report of the number of guns under Colonel Lee's command now in position, and Colonel Cabell has been ordered to relieve them. He has only ten guns to relieve twelve. Of these, two are 32-pounders, two 12-pounder howitzers, two are 24-pounder howitzers, and four are 6-pounder guns. Colonel Cabell hopes you will forward, as soon as practicable, as many guns as you can spare, the guns removed being so much superior in caliber, &c., to the guns he is to put in position.

By order of Colonel Cabell.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHARD M. VENABLE,
Adjutant.

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 21, 1862.

Brigadier-General PENDLETON,
Commanding Artillery:

GENERAL: General Lee directs me to say that he is much obliged to you for your letter of this evening, just received.

General Huger may want more field artillery to hold his front, and General Lee requests that you will see that it is supplied, should his supposition be correct. General Lee desires you also to have all your reserve artillery parked on the different fronts, where it can be conveniently and rapidly brought into action when necessary. He will rely greatly upon the good use of artillery to hold the enemy in check should he advance against our weakened lines, and he requests that you will give your constant and unremitting attention to this matter.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. MASON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL MAGRUDER'S HEADQUARTERS,
June 23, 1862.

General PENDLETON:

GENERAL: I think so far as the number of pieces is concerned there is sufficient, but several of the batteries are not efficient; for instance, Page's, Young's, and W. Jones' batteries together constitute but one battery of six pieces. Page has not sufficient men to man his guns (three pieces). Richardson has two 32-pounder guns, not suited for field service. Jordan's battery has three 32-pounder howitzers and one 12-pounder gun. The above-mentioned batteries, with Moody's and Read's,

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constitute the reserve artillery (twenty-two pieces), of which I consider only Moody's, Read's, and Jordan's batteries efficient for field service. I would like another battery, or have Woolfolk's battery replaced by heavier guns, so I could consider that battery as one of my reserve batteries. I should mention that each brigade of Magruder's division has a battery, generally four pieces. If all the guns in the division were well manned I consider what I have ample; but they are not. There should be several heavy pieces (like Captain Dabney's) at Mrs. Price's, and they would replace all the small pieces.

Yours, respectfully,

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

GENERAL: I would suggest a fuller report than the blank you sent me this evening, at least to include the men for duty and serviceable and unserviceable horses.

S. D. LEE,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS, *June* 24, 1862.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: I have just heard, indirectly, that General Pendleton has ordered three batteries away from my division, leaving five in the division, two of which are not fit for field service. I could have spared two very well if the two that were unfit for field service had been taken, but would like to have as many as one for a brigade, and those fit for the field. One of those that I have is without horses (Dearing's); another (Stribling's) is too heavy for the field. The Washington Artillery is in my command, but I have always understood that its batteries were to be unassigned, and it was my intention to have it together and in readiness for any portion of the command that will move to the attack, as a reserve for the whole. If the arrangement can be made, I am still of the opinion that this would be our best arrangement.

Most respectfully, &c.,

JAMES LONGSTREET,
Major-General.

[Indorsements.]

HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
June 24, 1862.

Respectfully referred to General Pendleton, commanding Artillery Reserve, with the request that the arrangement may be made, if possible, in accordance with General Longstreet's application.

By command of General Lee:

T. M. R. TALCOTT,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

GENERAL: Colonel Brown will see you on this subject. Many cares have made you forget the arrangement for Colonel Brown's companies. Captain Dearing I hope to have strong [*sic*] for you to-morrow. With him you have ten batteries, allowing one to each brigade, and four in reserve. However, I will gladly do for you all I can.

Truly, your friend,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

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Report of artillery in Major-General Magruder's division, commanded by Lieut. Col. S. D. Lee, June 24, 1862.

Captain.	Officers.	Men.	Guns.							Horses.	Brigade.	Efficiency.	Station.
			32-pounders.	24-pounder howitzers.	12-pounder howitzers.	12-pounder guns.	Parrott rifles.	3-inch rifles.	6-pounder guns.				
Carlton [Henry H.]	5	121	....	....	2	....	....	....	2	73	General Cobb's ...	Good	Right of Nine-mile road, near General Jones' headquarters.
Jordan [Tyler C.]	3	60	....	3	....	1	....	....	....	57	General Cobb's ...	Good	Left of Nine-mile road, in traverse fort, Mrs. Price's farm.
Read [John P. W.]	3	73	....	....	2	....	....	....	2	59	General Cobb's ...	Good	Right of Nine-mile road, in redoubts in advance of Burnt Tavern.
Brown [J. S.]	4	87	....	....	2	....	....	....	2	64	Colonel Anderson's	Good	Left of Nine-mile road, in woods near Mrs. Price's farm.
Cosnahan [Joseph B.]	1	31	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	15	Colonel Anderson's	Good	Left of Nine-mile road, in traverse fort, Mrs. Price's farm.
Lane [John]	2	24	....	....	....	1	1	..	....	28	Colonel Anderson's	Good	Mrs. Price's farm.
Kemper [Del.]			....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	General Toombs'..	Very good..	
Page [T. Jeff.]	3	26	....	....	....	....	....	1	1	38	General Toombs'..	.....	Left of Nine-mile road in clover field, beyond New Bridge road.
Richardson [L. W.]	4	48	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	40	General Toombs'..	Good	Redoubt at Burnt Tavern.
Ritter [W. B.]	1	43	....	....	....	....	1	....	3	48	General Toombs'..	Good	Left of Nine-mile road, Mrs. Price's farm.
Woolfolk [Pichegru, jr.]	4	61	..	....	2	....	....	2	....	53	General Toombs'..	Good	Mrs. Price's.
Young [E. R.]	4	51	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	34	General Toombs'..	Good	Left of Nine-mile road in clover field, beyond New Bridge road.
Manly [Basil C.]	3	95	....	....	2	....	....	1	3	45	General Semmes'..	Good	
Moody [George V.]	3	106	....	....	2	....	....	2	2	93	General Semmes'..	Very good..	

I would respectfully recommend that Page's, Young's, and Cosnahan's batteries be sent to the Reserve Artillery, under the brigadier-general commanding, until reorganized. At present they are not organized, efficient companies. They require repairs and refitting, which cannot be accomplished in the field. I request that an efficient six-gun battery be sent to replace them.

[STEPHEN D. LEE.]

P. HAMILTON,
Lieutenant of Artillery and Adjutant.

I will not delay this report for Captain Kemper's. As soon as it is received at this office will forward it to headquarters.

P. HAMILTON, *Adjutant.*

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IN THE FIELD, *June* 27, 1862.

General PENDLETON:

SIR: I am instructed by General Magruder to say to you that great assistance can be given our friends by placing "Long Tom" and all long-range pieces you have in the rear of Mrs. Christian's. Great execution could have been done yesterday evening if pieces had been stationed there. If the enemy falls back he will retire by Sydner's, upon which place you will have good range. If Colonel Davis' cavalry (spoken of in the order) is anywhere near you, please inform them that there is no support for the artillery at Mrs. Christian's, and it would be well for them to take post there.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,

A. G. DICKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS RIGHT WING,
June 28, 1862.

General PENDLETON:

SIR: I am instructed by Major-General Magruder to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this morning, and to say that he entirely approves of your plans of disposing of the heavy guns to counter-batter the enemy's batteries and works, and has for some time desired to put up earthworks in Garnett's fields, which would place our artillery on an equal footing with the enemy's. Major Stevens, chief engineer, was opposed to this, and General Magruder, having no engineer under his command, could not overcome the obstacles which were interposed to his erecting these works, and the working tools are now removed to some point in the rear in consequence of General Lee's orders.

If you will get the President or Secretary of War to assign an engineer to General Magruder, and ascertain where the tools taken by the engineers are, General Magruder will take the tools and endeavor to make some protection to our artillery bearing on the enemy's works in our front.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY BRYAN,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION,
DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
July 2, 1862.

General PENDLETON, *Commanding Artillery:*

DEAR GENERAL: I am just in from last night's battle-field, and left General Lee at 12 o'clock last night. We suffered severe loss in artillery horses in Lee's artillery, Magruder's command. The general directed me to send out artillery horses to-day, but I deem it best to advise you of the state of things, and suggest respectfully if it would not be better to send up fresh artillery to relieve Colonel Lee's companies that [suffered] so much yesterday, until they can draw new horses and refit. If I send a lot of unbroken horses over the crowded roads to hunt a division in our army at present, it will be nine to one if they reach their destination in two days.

I would further remark that General Longstreet ordered up last

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night the Washington Artillery, to be in position this morning. They are all fresh, not having yet been in.

Please let me have your views by the courier.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. H. COLE,
Major and Inspector of Transportation.

We had a heavy battle yesterday with heavy loss, without fruit.

Yours,

A. H. C.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
On Charles City Road, at old church, about 10 *miles from the Williamsburg road, July* 3, 1862.

GENERAL: The batteries of the division having been very badly treated by the enemy since the fight commenced, I have been obliged to send back Captain Bondurant's artillery. Captains Clark and Peyton, of Major Jones' battalion, form only a battery of six pieces, and Captain Hardaway burst two of his guns; for these reasons the general (D. H. Hill) ordered me to ask from you for this division four more batteries. We need them, and if they report here to-morrow morning they will help us very much.

I am, general, your most obedient servant,

S. F. PIERSON,
Chief of Artillery of Third Division.

RICHMOND, *July* 5, 1862.

To the Army of Eastern Virginia:

SOLDIERS: I congratulate you on the series of brilliant victories which, under the favor of Divine Providence, you have lately won, and, as the President of the Confederate States, do heartily tender to you the thanks of the country whose just cause you have so skillfully and heroically served. Ten days ago an invading army, vastly superior to you in numbers and in the material of war, closely beleaguered your capital, and vauntingly proclaimed its speedy conquest. You marched to attack the enemy in his intrenchments with well-directed movements and death-defying valor. You charged upon him in his strong positions, drove him from field to field over a distance of more than 35 miles, and, despite his reenforcements, compelled him to seek safety under cover of his gunboats, where he now lies cowering before the army so lately derided and threatened with entire subjugation. The fortitude with which you have borne toil and privation, the gallantry with which you have entered into each successive battle, must have been witnessed to be fully appreciated, but a grateful people will not fail to recognize your deeds and to bear you in loved remembrance. Well may it be said of you that you have "done enough for glory," but duty to a suffering country and to the cause of constitutional liberty claims from you yet further effort. Let it be your pride to relax in nothing which can promote your future efficiency, your one great object being to drive the invader from your soil and carry your standards beyond the outer boundaries of the Confederacy, to wring from an unscrupulous foe the recognition of your birthright, community independence.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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HEADQUARTERS DIVISION,
July 6, 1862.

General PENDLETON:

Major Nelson reported to me day before yesterday that he had six batteries in reserve. I informed him that he could leave three of them in the present reserve camp and report the other three to you.

Major Nelson has left Captain Jordan's battery, four pieces, and one piece of Cosnahan, now Jones'; Captain Page's battery, two pieces; Captain Read's battery, four pieces.

My directions to Major Nelson were to leave three of the strongest batteries; whereas the batteries of Jordan and Page are very weak in men and that of Page in both men and guns.

I am not aware what batteries were taken away, but I cannot think they were the weakest, and therefore my orders have been positively disobeyed, according to appearances.

Very respectfully,

L. McLAWS,
Major-General.

There are but two rifle pieces, one 10-pounder Parrott and one 3 inch, among all the batteries under my command (I mean efficient guns—those of Manly and of Troup Artillery being worthless, I believe), except in the battery of Kemper, there are two guns.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
August 10, 1862.

Brigadier-General PENDLETON,
Commanding Reserve Artillery:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 9th instant* is received, and in reply General Lee desires me to say that he approves of your suggestion to organize an artillery force under Colonel Brown, to be employed about Petersburg under the direction of General Hill, and to return with the remainder of your artillery to this side of the James River.

Major-General Hill has been informed of the wishes of the general in regard to your artillery. You are desired to return yourself to-morrow (the 11th).

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. L. LONG,
Colonel and Military Secretary.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, Va., August 30, 1862.

I. By direction of the War Department, Maj. Gen. G. W. Smith assumes command of the defenses of Richmond and its approaches.

* * * * * * *

G. W. SMITH,
Major-General.

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*Not found.

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